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ABSTRACT

A nationwide survey investigated public playgrounds and found that a majority of America's playgrounds pose hidden threats to children. This report provides the survey's findings, providing summary data from 22 states and the District of Columbia. Focusing on playground hazards, the survey reports that 87 percent of the 760 playgrounds surveyed lacked adequate protective surfacing; 40 percent of slides and climbing equipment did not have adequate fall zones; 62 percent of playgrounds had climbers and 37 percent had slides where the height of the play equipment is greater than 6 feet high; 12 percent of playgrounds with swings had swing seats that are made of wood, metal, or other rigid material; 58 percent of playgrounds contained swings either too close together or too close to swing supports; 42 percent of playgrounds had play equipment that posed threats for head entrapment; 40 percent of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards; and 43 percent of playgrounds had other unacceptably dangerous equipment. The survey also reports playground improvements made over the past few years to better safeguard kids such as less use of hard surfaces under playground equipment. Concluding charts provide playground findings sorted by state. (GR)

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PLAYING IT SAFE

A Fourth Nationwide
Safety Survey of
Public Playgrounds

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A Joint Report by
U.S. PIRG and
Consumer Federation
of America

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PLAYING IT SAFE; JUNE 1998
A Fourth Nationwide Safety Survey of Public Playgrounds

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Alaska PIRG, Arizona Consumers Council, California PIRG, Colorado PIRG, Connecticut PIRG, Florida PIRG, Florida Consumer Action Network (FCAN), Illinois PIRG, Maryland PIRG, Massachusetts PIRG, Montana PIRG, New Mexico PIRG, New York PIRG, New Jersey PIRG, North Carolina Consumers Council, Ohio PIRG, Oregon State PIRG (OSPIRG), Pennsylvania Citizens Consumer Council, Pennsylvania PIRG, PIRG in Michigan, Virginia Citizens Consumer Council (VCCC) (with assistance of Therapeutic Recreation students from several colleges including Radford and Longwood).
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The **Consumer Federation of America (CFA)** is the nation's largest consumer organization, with over 240 national, state and local members representing the interests of over 50 million consumers.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A fourth nationwide investigation of public playgrounds by the Public Interest Research Groups (PIRG) and Consumer Federation of America (CFA) found that a majority of American playgrounds pose hidden threats to our nation's youngsters.

Too many children are getting hurt and killed on our playgrounds. Each year, nearly 150,000 are injured seriously enough to require emergency room treatment. Tragically, an average of 15 children die each year playing on playgrounds. Many of these deaths and injuries could be prevented if playgrounds -- from equipment to surfacing to layout -- were designed with safety in mind.

In June 1998, CFA released the third edition of its "Report and Model Law on Public Play Equipment and Areas," as a blueprint for designing, building and maintaining public playgrounds. The CFA report details the hazards on playgrounds that lead to injuries and presents safety and design criteria that can reduce deaths and injuries. In the springs of 1992 (11 states), 1994 (22 states), and 1996 (25 states) PIRGs and other CFA member organizations investigated playgrounds and documented hazards posed by inadequate surfacing, obstacles, and other problems.

From March-May 1998, the PIRGs and other CFA member organizations investigated 760 playgrounds in 24 states (Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Virginia) and Washington, D.C., to determine the current safety conditions of our public playgrounds.

The investigation focused on the hazards that cause the most serious playground injuries, and found the following:

- In 1998, 87% of the 760 playgrounds surveyed lacked adequate protective surfacing. Although this is about the same number, 85%, as lacked protective surfacing in 1996, we are encouraged by: (1) an increase from 5-7% in the number of playgrounds with synthetic surfaces and (2) an increase in the number of playgrounds with loose-fill surfacing, even though most of those playgrounds lacked adequate depth. Protective surfacing is the **most critical safety factor** on playgrounds because approximately 75% of all injuries are caused by falls.
- In 1998, 40% of slides and climbing equipment surveyed did not have an adequate fall zone under and around the play equipment. Other equipment and obstacles in the fall zone pose hazards where a child might fall.
- In 1998, 62% of playgrounds had climbers and 37% had slides where the height of the play equipment is greater than 6 feet high, which is higher than necessary for play value, and only serves to increase the risk of injury.
- In 1998, 12% of playgrounds with swings had swing seats that are made of wood, metal or other rigid material.

- In 1998, 58% of playgrounds contained swings that were either too close together or too close to swing supports.
- In 1998, in 42% of playgrounds, improperly sized openings in the play equipment posed a head entrapment hazard.
- In 1998, in 40% of playgrounds, small gaps, open S-hooks and other protrusions posed clothing entanglement hazards, in particular to hood drawstrings. This figure represents a decline from 1996, when 47% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.
- In 1998, 43% of playgrounds had unacceptable dangerous equipment, such as chain or cable walks, animal swings, individual climbing ropes or exercise rings. This figure also declined from 1996, when 51% of playgrounds contained unacceptable dangerous equipment.

Overall, this year's survey shows improvements, in particular, a continued decline in the number of playgrounds with hard surfaces under and around all play equipment. In 1992, fully 31% of playgrounds identified had cement, packed dirt or asphalt or other hard surfaces; the percentage declined to 13% in 1994, 9% in 1996 and to 8% this year. As in previous surveys, however, many playgrounds have mixed surfacing, with loose-fill, absorbent materials like hardwood chips under some equipment, and unsafe hard surfaces like soil and grass under other equipment.

Surveyors continue to note the gradual replacement of old, unsafe playgrounds with new, modern playgrounds. In Washington, DC, for example, the National Park Service has replaced several of its playgrounds, including Hains Point, and is on schedule to upgrade the others. Several mothers at new playgrounds told surveyors: "You should have been here a month ago to see the old playground."

Yet changes move slowly and, with budget constraints, many local governments may not prioritize playground safety unless parents and advocates make it an issue. Local authorities **should** make public playgrounds safer. One estimate showed that in Massachusetts alone, the lifetime health care costs caused by playground injuries could be conservatively estimated at \$10 million each year.

To improve playground safety, PIRG and CFA offer the following recommendations:

- States and local governments should adopt CFA's "Model Law on Public Play Equipment and Areas."
- Parents, school administrators, child care providers and parks personnel should evaluate their local playgrounds and work to make each playground safer.

As a first step in evaluating the safety of a playground, parents and others can use CFA's "Parent Checklist: How Safe Is Your Local Playground?" It is found in Appendix C of this report, and is available for free to individuals by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Parent Checklist, P. O. Box 12099, Washington, D.C. 20005-0999. If any hazards are found, contact the owner or operator of the playground and demand corrective action.

PLAYGROUNDS CAN BE PERILOUS

On August 22, 1995, an eight-year old girl in Neptune, New Jersey was playing on the playground in her housing complex, when she fell from the monkey bars. The fall from the 8 foot high piece of equipment caused her to die the next day from head injuries. New Jersey Assemblyman Thomas S. Smith commented, "The death...was a terrible tragedy. There are many who feel that her death could have been prevented had there been adequate protective surfacing beneath the equipment."¹

On September 20, 1993, a seven-year old boy in Oakland, California was playing on his school's playground equipment, when he fell from the horizontal ladder and hit his head. Conflicting accounts report that he either hit his forehead on the side of the horizontal ladder, or on the worn out rubber pad surface exposing asphalt ground beneath the ladder. Victim was taken by ambulance to the hospital where he was released the following day, readmitted the next day, and died in the hospital five days after the incident occurred.²

One 2 1/2-year old and two four-year olds died when their heads got caught between a guard rail and the platform of climbing equipment on a public playground. In all three cases, the child was sitting on the platform with his or her legs dangling over the edge or lying face down on the platform. The child then slid off the platform under the guard rail, got his or her head trapped, and strangled to death.³

Children love to play -- especially outdoors. The outdoor environment provides unique opportunities for play and, therefore, for learning. But children can only benefit from playing outdoors if it is safe. Outdoor play equipment, in particular, poses hazards to children when it is not carefully designed or maintained.

More and more children are injured on playgrounds each year. According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), it is estimated that nearly 150,000 children are injured seriously enough to require emergency room treatment each year. Tragically, an average of 15 children die each year playing on playgrounds. Many of these deaths and injuries can be prevented if playgrounds are designed with greater attention to safety.

Unfortunately, the federal government has opted not to set national standards for the design and construction of outdoor play equipment. Although the CPSC published a "Handbook for Public Playground Safety" (November 1991 and updated it in 1994 and again in 1997), this handbook is only a set of guidelines -- not a standard and compliance with the CPSC recommendations is not mandatory.

The 16 years that passed between the CPSC's first set of guidelines (their 1981 handbook) and their more recent effort underscore the fact that voluntary compliance with recommendations is not good enough. Injuries and deaths related to public playground equipment -- injuries and deaths that could be prevented -- continue to occur at alarming rates. For children under the age of six, the injury rate

¹ "Pushing for playground safety," by Brad Bennett, Asbury Park (NJ) Press, 6 Sept 1995.

² This example from an Accident Investigation of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, National Injury Information Clearinghouse.

³ Ratte, D., Morrison, M., & Lerner, N. (1990). "Development of human factors criteria for playground equipment safety." Final Report on Contract CPSC-C-88-1231, submitted by Comsis Corporation to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

in our country has doubled since 1980. The United States lags behind other industrialized nations in providing for safe playground equipment. Many European countries and Canada have mandatory standards. Our children deserve the same level of protection.

In 1998, Consumer Federation of America (CFA) released the third edition of a "Report and Model Law on Public Play Equipment and Areas."⁴ The goal of CFA's report was to educate those who are responsible for and care about playgrounds -- including parents, school administrators, child care providers, parks personnel, and designers, so that they could make informed safe choices about play equipment and the layout of play areas.

CFA's report details the hazards on playgrounds and presents safety and design criteria for safer playgrounds in the form of a model law. The provisions of the model law were based on the state of the art in 1998, for safety and design for public play equipment and areas. While no play area or piece of equipment can be made completely safe, careful design can minimize injuries and save children's lives.

"Playing It Safe: The Fourth Nationwide Safety Survey of Public Playgrounds" follows up on the first three PIRG/CFA Playground Safety Surveys, and the CFA Report, with the results of an investigation conducted to determine the current safety conditions of public playgrounds across the country.

DEATHS AND INJURIES ON PUBLIC PLAYGROUNDS

Public playground equipment continues to be a major cause of injury for children.

Falls -- usually to the ground surface below equipment -- account for approximately 75% of all playground-related injuries. Nine out of ten serious injuries (mainly head injuries and fractures) are caused by falls to the surface. At least one-third of playground-related deaths involve falls. Of all deaths caused by falls, 75 percent involve head injuries.

Other causes of injury involve impact with moving equipment, running into stationary equipment, sharp edges, protrusions, pinch points, hot surfaces, and debris in the play area.

Other causes of death involve strangulation, impact with moving equipment, and equipment failures or tipovers. Strangulation accounts for almost half of all fatalities related to playground equipment. Most strangulation incidents involve entanglement. The typical entanglement scenario occurs because something a child is wearing gets caught on equipment -- very often on slides or swings. Clothing, scarves, mittens, jacket strings, and jacket hoods have become entangled in narrow gaps between equipment components, on vertical posts, and on open connecting links such as "S" hooks, causing death by strangulation. Ropes, jump ropes, and leashes, either attached to equipment or being worn around a child's neck, have also been implicated in strangulation deaths. Similarly, free hanging

⁴ Much of the information, injury data, and technical criteria presented here come from CFA's report and model law, "Report and Model Law on Public Play Equipment and Areas" (Morrison & Fise, 1998). This document adds survey data reporting on the safety of American playgrounds as a follow up to the CFA report.

ropes are also a cause of playground fatalities. The other major cause of strangulation is head entrapment. The fatalities resulting from impact with moving equipment generally involve head injuries resulting from swing impact; children under the age of six are almost always the victims in these cases.

Children under the age of six suffer approximately 37 percent of all public playground equipment-related injuries, children between the ages of six and eight are involved in another 40 percent, and children over the age of eight are involved in another 23 percent. The frequency of injury to children under the age of six has doubled since 1980.

Slides are the most frequent cause of injury for children under the age of six. Superficial facial injuries (i.e., lacerations and contusions) and serious head injuries (i.e., skull fractures, concussions, and internal head injuries) are the two predominant patterns of injury for young children on slides, swings, and climbers.

Although falls are the most common mode of injury for both younger and older children, younger children are more likely to sustain injuries to the head and face. When young children fall to the surface from play equipment, they are more susceptible to head injuries since they often do not have the motor coordination or cognitive skills necessary to protect their heads by breaking a fall with their arms. In addition, young children are at greater risk for head and facial injuries caused by impact with moving equipment such as swings.

Climbers are the most frequent cause of injury for children six and older. Upper limb fracture is the predominant pattern of injury for older children on climbers, swings, and slides.

Because older children's cognitive and perceptual skills are more refined, they better anticipate and avoid moving swings. They are also better able to react to a fall, typically using their arms to break their landing. Consequently, older children reduce the risk of head injury, but they simultaneously increase the risk of upper limb fracture.

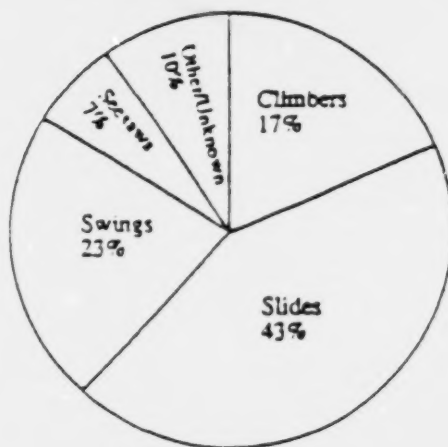


Figure 2-1: Playground Equipment-Related Injuries Sustained by Children Under 6

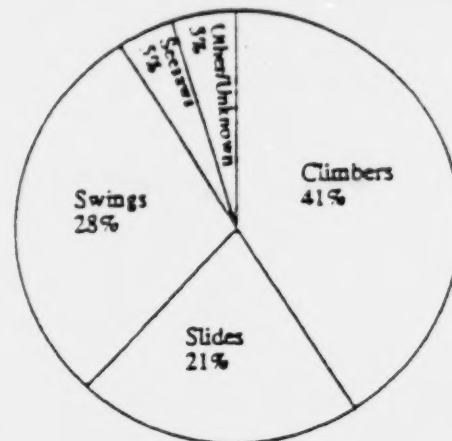


Figure 2-2: Playground Equipment-Related Injuries Sustained by Children 6 and Over

RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION

The Nation's Playgrounds Pose Hidden Hazards

From March-May 1998, the PIRGs and other CFA member organizations investigated 760 playgrounds in 24 states (Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and Virginia) and Washington, D.C., to determine the current safety conditions of our public playgrounds.

It was recommended that volunteers visit the same playgrounds as those included in the 1996 survey. They were also encouraged to visit additional playgrounds and to visit a random mix of new, old, good and bad playgrounds. The same survey instrument was used with a few differences: the fall zone area between adjacent pieces of equipment (higher than 30 inches) was changed to a minimum of 6 feet to reflect the CPSC fall zone area (question #2); a question on peeling, chipping or cracked paint was added (question #3); and shredded tires was added as a type of surfacing loose-fill material (question #1). See Appendix D for a copy of the survey instrument. Because we surveyed an additional 198 playgrounds in 1998, our data are not strictly statistically comparable to 1996, but do provide some general trends about playgrounds across the country.

The investigation focused on the hazards which cause the most serious playground injuries: falls, impact with moving swings, head entrapment, and entanglement.

This year's survey found improvements from the results of our 1992, 1994 and 1996 surveys, although widespread hazards still exist at playgrounds around the country.

A. FALLS

Many design strategies can minimize the injuries and deaths caused by falls. Three strategies are: (1) maintaining adequate protective surfacing, (2) removing other equipment and obstacles from areas where a child might fall (the "fall zones"), and (3) limiting the height of play equipment.

PROTECTIVE SURFACING

Protective surfacing under and around all play equipment is the *most critical safety factor* on playgrounds, yet the investigation found that a majority of the playgrounds surveyed lack adequate protective surfacing. In 1998, 87% of the 760 playgrounds surveyed lack adequate protective surfacing.

Table #1: Protective Surfacing Results	1994	1996	1998
% Playgrounds With Adequate Protective Surfacing			
Loose Fill of depth greater than 9 inches (wood chips, mulch, sand, etc.)	3%	10%	6%
Unitary Synthetic Surfacing	5%	5%	7%
Total Adequate	8%	15%	13%
% Playgrounds With Inadequate protective surfacing			
Loose Fill of inadequate depth (less than 9 inches)	60%	61%	58%
Hard Surfaces (cement, asphalt, grass, packed soil, etc.)	13%	9%	8%
Mixed Hard and Loose Fill Surfaces	19%	15%	22%
Total Inadequate	92%	85%	87%

Falls from play equipment may cause life-threatening head impact injuries. The surfacing on which a falling child lands is a major determinant of the injury-causing potential of the fall. Protective surfacing cannot prevent all injuries due to falls, but it can help reduce both the frequency and severity of injuries. Falls onto a resilient surface are less likely to result in a life-threatening injury. The greater the resiliency of the surface, the greater the safety.

Hard Surfaces Are Unacceptable

Protective surfacing materials should cushion a fall. Hard or paved surfaces such as concrete and asphalt as well as earth surfaces including grass, soil and hard packed dirt *are not acceptable*, because they do not provide adequate protection against falls. Falls onto concrete or asphalt from as low as 2 inches can cause life threatening head injuries.

- Eight percent of playgrounds had hard surfaces, representing a small change from the 9% we reported in 1996.
- An additional 22% of playgrounds had a mixture of hard and loose fill surfaces. This is up from 15% in 1996.

This increase in playgrounds with a mixed hard and loose-fill surfaces may not represent a bad trend. Surveyors noted in many cases that a playground that contained, for example, worn grass under one piece of equipment, such as swings, also had adequate loose fill surface under a new piece of equipment, such as a climber. It appeared in these cases that as a new piece of equipment was added to the playground that adequate surfacing was installed under it. In other cases, it appeared that there

were attempts to add loose-fill surfacing, regardless of the age of equipment, and a decision was made to install it under certain pieces of equipment at adequate depths rather than spread it over the entire playground at an inadequate depth.

Maintained Loose Fill Materials And Synthetic Surfaces Are Acceptable

(1) **LOOSE FILL:** Acceptable protective surfacing materials include certain loose-fill materials -- such as hardwood chips -- when properly maintained at depths of at least 9 to 12 inches.

- While 64% (480) of all playgrounds had a loose fill surface, only 6% (42) of all playgrounds (8% of the loose fill playgrounds) maintained the surface at an adequate depth.

- Of the other 92% (438) of loose-fill playgrounds with inadequate depths of loose-fill surfacing, 14% (61) had loose-fill depths of 6-9 inches. These playgrounds may be making attempts to provide adequate surfacing; compaction, decomposition, and displacement, in addition to inadequate depths at installation, can all contribute to depths below 9 inches.

(2) **SYNTHETIC SURFACES:** Certain unitary synthetic surfaces -- such as premolded rubber tiles -- can also meet impact requirements.

- 7% of the playgrounds have synthetic surfacing under and around all of the equipment, up from 5% in 1996.

FALL ZONES

A fall zone is the area under and around a piece of play equipment where a child might fall. To reduce injuries, protective surfacing should be installed throughout the fall zone, and the fall zone should be free of other equipment or obstacles onto which a child might fall.

Climbing Equipment and Slides:

Approximately 32 percent of all injuries associated with public playground equipment involve climbers. Almost all climber-related injuries are due to falls. Of all injuries on climbers, 80 percent are sustained by children over the age of six. In fact, climbers are the type of equipment most frequently implicated in playground injuries for children six and older -- which may be explained in part by older children's boldness to experiment with creative climbing techniques. Within this age group, climbers account for 41 percent of all equipment-related injuries.

Stationery climbing equipment should have a fall zone extending a minimum of 6 feet in all directions from the perimeter of the equipment.

Slides account for almost 30 percent of all public playground equipment-related injuries. Of all injuries sustained on slides, one-half are associated with falls to the surface below the equipment, and another one-fourth involve falls onto other parts of the equipment. Falls from the platform, from the top of the slide, and from the top portion of the slide chute are most common. Falls also often occur as children climb ladders that access slide structures. When compared to other types of equipment, slides tend to have higher rates of serious head injuries.

Slides should have a fall zone extending a minimum of 6 feet in all directions from the perimeter of the equipment.

- For slides and climbers, 40% of equipment surveyed did not have an adequate fall zone.

Swings:

Swings are involved in about 26 percent of all injuries related to public playground equipment. Falls account for approximately two-thirds of swing injuries, most being falls to the surface.

The fall zone for swings should extend a minimum of 6 feet from the perimeter of the support structure on each side as well as a minimum distance of twice the height of the pivot point in front of and behind the swing seats.

- In 41% of the playgrounds with swings, the swings did not have an adequate fall zone.

EQUIPMENT HEIGHT

While increasing the height of the equipment does not necessarily increase challenge or play value, it always increases hazard. Limiting the height of play equipment is an essential means of reducing the frequency and severity of injury.

Climbing Equipment:

The highest climbing member, such as a rung or platform, of climbing equipment should not be higher than 6 feet for school-age children or 4 feet for preschool-age children.

- In 62% of the 719 playgrounds with heights reported for climbing equipment, the climbing equipment is more than 6 feet high.

Slides:

The platform of a slide should not be higher than 6 feet for school-age children or 4 feet for preschool-age children.

- In 37% of the 704 playgrounds with heights reported for slides, the slide is more than 6 feet high, a decline from 1996, when 45% of slides were higher than 6 feet.

IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS

Impact with moving swings causes one-fourth of all swing injuries. Children under the age of six are those most often injured during moving impact incidents. Given certain cognitive and perceptual limitations, young children may unknowingly put themselves in a dangerous position. Young children often do not pay attention to things outside their direct view. A moving swing, for example, that is outside of direct sight lines may go unnoticed. Further, young children commonly center on a single idea or event. As a result, injuries often occur because young children inadvertently walk into the path of a moving swing while concentrating on other activities. The typical scenario involves a young child walking in front of or behind a moving swing and getting hit, either by the seat itself or by a child in the seat. Injuries to the head and face are, therefore, common.

Spacing Between Swings

Overall, in 1998, 58% of playgrounds with swings included swings that posed one or more of the following number and spacing hazards that could increase the risk that a child will be hit by a moving swing.

Swings should be 24 or more inches apart.

- 23% of playgrounds had at least one swing set where swings were too close together.

Swings should be at least 30 inches from swing supports.

- 26% of playgrounds had at least one swing set where swings were closer, a decline from 31% in 1996.

Swings should be spaced no more than 2 swings per bay.

- 31% of playgrounds had one or more swing sets with more than two swings per bay, a decline from 38% in 1996.

Tot/Infant Swing Spacing

Tot/infant swings should not be mixed with swings intended for older children.

- 15% of playgrounds mixed tot/infant and other swings, a decline from 22% in 1996.

Swing Seats

All swing seats should be made of lightweight, impact-absorbing materials, such as rubber, to reduce the severity of injuries if impact incidents do occur.

- In 12% of playgrounds with swings, the swing seats are made of wood, metal or other rigid material, about the same number as in 1996 (10%), but down significantly from 1994, when 26% of swings were made of rigid material.

HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS

Even playgrounds that look safe to parents -- those that have protective surfacing, adequate space around equipment, and swings that are designed to minimize impact injuries -- may present hidden hazards, like head entrapment. For example, rungs spaced five inches apart on a piece of climbing equipment may not readily appear dangerous, but do pose a strangulation hazard. A child could enter the opening between the rungs feet first and then not be able to withdraw her head because the opening is too small.

Head and neck entrapment presents a very serious risk of death by strangulation for young children and, therefore, warrants extra precaution. Any opening -- except those where the ground serves as its lower boundary -- with an interior dimension between 3.5 inches and 9 inches may cause head entrapment. Entrapment may occur when a child enters an opening, either head or feet first, but cannot withdraw his or her head because the opening is too small.

- In 42% of playgrounds, the play equipment poses a head entrapment hazard, declining again, from 55% of playgrounds in 1994 and 46% of playgrounds in 1996.

ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS

Protrusions and projections on play equipment or gaps, holes or other openings in the play equipment can cause serious injury or death by strangulation if such hazards can entangle children's clothing. Many protrusions, projections and gaps can be eliminated through the design of the equipment or by recessing or countersinking potential hazards such as connecting hardware. Special attention to protrusions, projections, gaps, openings and holes which may present entanglement hazards at the top of slides is warranted. Jackets or clothing with hoods and/or drawstrings have been implicated in such entanglement strangulation incidents.

- In 40% of playgrounds, open S-hooks, gaps, protrusions and other features that may act as hooks or catch points posed clothing entanglement hazards, a decline from 47% in 1996.

HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT

Certain types of equipment should not be included in public play areas.

Animal swings, multiple occupancy swings (gliders), swinging exercise rings, and trapeze bars are constructed of heavy, hard-hitting, rigid materials that may cause serious head impact injuries.

- In 1998, 4% of all playgrounds had animal swings, identical to the number found in 1996, but down from 19% of the playgrounds surveyed in 1992 and 11% in 1994.
- In 1998, 3% of all playgrounds had multiple occupancy swings or gliders.
- In 1998, 23% of all playgrounds had swinging exercise rings or trapeze bars.

Rope swings present children with a free hanging rope that poses a strangulation hazard.

- In 1998, 4% of all playgrounds had a climbing rope or rope swing.

Track rides, because they are hard to maintain and are difficult for children to use, present a risk of injury from falls.

- In 1998, 13% of all playgrounds had a track ride. This is a significant increase from 1996, when only 6% of playgrounds reported one.

Chain or cable walks present tripping hazards. Further, if not well maintained they provide children with a chain or cable attached only on one end which presents the risk of strangulation.

- In 1998, 17% of playgrounds, down from 28% in 1996, had a chain or cable walk.

Rotating or swinging gates may cause impact or fall-related injuries.

- 6% of all playgrounds had a rotating or swinging gate.

LEAD

Testing by the CPSC and some state and local jurisdictions has shown that many school, park and community playgrounds across the United States have metal and wooden playground equipment that presents a potential lead paint poisoning hazard primarily for children six years and younger.

CPSC testing revealed that some equipment was painted with lead paint, and over time, the paint has deteriorated into chips and dust containing lead. In a survey of 26 playgrounds, CPSC found that 62% had lead levels that could exceed the amount used by the federal government to determine lead hazards. The lead paint chips and lead dust may be ingested by children six years and younger who put their hands on the equipment while playing, and then put their hands in their mouths. Older

children and adults are less likely to be at risk because they do not exhibit this same behavior.

Ingestion of lead paint is a major source of lead poisoning for children six years old and younger. Deteriorating lead paint in homes is the leading cause of lead poisoning in children. The health effects of lead ingestion are cumulative. In children, behavioral problems, learning disabilities, hearing problems, and growth retardation have been associated with sustained blood lead levels as low as 10 micrograms per decaliter (ug/dl).

In addition, CPSC has given guidance on how to conduct a lead hazard assessment for playground equipment. The first step of such an assessment is a visual inspection to determine if there are any areas of paint that are cracking or peeling. CPSC notes that special attention should be paid to equipment that was installed prior to 1987 when the CPSC's ban on lead paint went into effect. If paint is deteriorating, CPSC states that samples should be collected from several locations on the equipment, giving priority to equipment painted or repainted before 1978. Samples should be analyzed by a laboratory. If paint is chipping, peeling or otherwise deteriorating and the lead levels are equal to or exceed 0.5% by weight, measures to control the lead hazard should be implemented.

LEAD FINDINGS:

This year, a question was added to the CFA/PIRG survey to determine whether there was any peeling, chipping or cracking paint on any equipment surface. No samples were collected and no laboratory analysis was performed.

Forty-four (44%) percent of all playgrounds had peeling, chipping or cracked paint on at least some portion of the equipment surface. Further analysis is required to determine if this paint contains lead, and, if so, if it is at a hazardous level.

CONCLUSION

More and more children are injured on playgrounds each year. And deaths related to public playground equipment -- deaths that could be prevented -- continue to occur. While no play area or piece of equipment can be made completely safe, careful design minimizes injuries and saves children's lives.

It behooves local authorities to make public playgrounds safer. One estimate showed that in Massachusetts alone, a state with a population of only about 6 million, the lifetime health care costs caused by playground injuries could be conservatively estimated at \$10 million each year.⁵ An analysis of 215 lawsuits against recreational programs in New York and New Jersey between 1974 and 1987 found that playgrounds led all categories of such suits, and of the 54 (one-quarter of the total) against playgrounds, the primary problem areas included "provision and maintenance of proper

⁵ Personal communication with Massachusetts Dept. of Health, 5/16/94.

surfacing under apparatus and in play areas."⁶

Despite the high number of hazardous playgrounds found in this survey, the situation is not hopeless -- playgrounds can be built safely *and* provide lots of fun and challenges for children. But more should be done to reach this objective. PIRG and CFA offer the following recommendations:

(1) States and local governments:

Adopt CFA's "Model Law on Public Play Equipment and Areas."⁷

The requirements of the model law are separated into three sections.

- Requirements applicable to *all* play areas and equipment,
- Requirements applicable to play areas and equipment intended for use by pre-school children, aged 2 through 5 years, and
- Requirements applicable to play areas and equipment intended for use by school-age children, aged 5 through 12 years.

For the greatest level of safety, all applicable provisions in the model law should be adopted. However, it is possible for a section or subsection to be adopted depending upon need. A child care licensing entity, for example, might adopt only the general and preschool-age requirements, if they only regulate centers serving children five and under. The protective surfacing provisions are also suitable for adoption alone.

(2) Parents, school administrators, child care providers and park personnel:

Evaluate your local playgrounds and work to make each playground safer.

As a first step in evaluating the safety of a playground, parents and others can use CFA's Parent Checklist. It is available for free to individuals by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Parent Checklist, P. O. Box 12099, Washington, D.C. 20005-0999. If any hazards are found, the owner or operator of the playground should be contacted and corrective action should be demanded.

⁶ "Lawsuits Brought Against Recreational Programs," *Recreational Newsletter*, National Safety Council, March/April 1988.

⁷ The CFA model law (second edition) represents what was, at the time of publication (1996), the state of the art in safety and design for public playgrounds. As more testing is completed and injury data collected, these provisions may at some point become outdated. Entities adopting these provisions should incorporate into their requirements a system of review to assure that these provisions are updated as necessary.

APPENDICES

- (1) State Summary Pages and State Playground By Playground Results
(National results are included in state summary pages. See below for key.)
- (2) Sample Survey Instrument
- (3) CFA Parents Checklist - "How Safe Is Your Local Playground?"

KEY TO PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND RESULTS

1) SURFACE CODES

Y = SAFE SURFACE

A safe surface is a playground that contains only one or more of the following surfaces in fall zones:

Adequate Loose Fill = Y: At least 9" or more of hardwood chips, pea gravel, sand or mulch **OR** at least 7" or more of shredded tires.

OR

Unitary Synthetic Surface = Y: Rubber or other synthetic tile or carpet.

M or H or I = Inadequate Surface

I = Inadequate Loose Fill: Loose fill of less than 9 inches (or shredded tires less than 6 inches).

H = Hard Surface: Inadequate hard surfaces include cement, asphalt, grass (can compact easily) and soil.

M = Mixed Surface: A combination of hard or inadequate surfaces with adequate surfaces under some equipment.

2) FALL ZONES: Y = SAFE

Do the slides and climbers have a 6" foot fall zone empty of obstacles) and do the swings have the same to the sides and a front/back fall zone each = twice the swing beam height?

3) PAINT N = SAFE

If chipping or peeling paint is present then the column is coded "Y".

4) CLIMBER/SLIDE HEIGHT Y = SAFE

Is the height of the highest climber or slide 6 feet or less?

5) SWING HAZARDS

N = Safe. No swings made of hard material. No more than 2 swings per bay.

Y = Safe. Is there at least 24" between swings. Is there 30" between swings and supports?

6) HEAD ENTRAPMENT N = SAFE

Does any playground equipment have head entrapment gaps of 3.5-9 inches?

7) CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT

N = SAFE

Does equipment have small gaps, open S-hooks, etc.?

8) HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT:

BLANK = SAFE (no code).

The following equipment is unsafe:

A = Track Ride. B = Chain or Cable Walk.

C = Swinging Gates. D = Multiple Occupancy Swings/Gliders. E = Animal Swings.

F = Swinging Exercise Rings/Trapeze.

G = Rope Swings. H = Individual Climbing Ropes.

Summary for ARIZONA

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

ARIZONA CONSUMER COUNCIL

Total Playgrounds in AZ = 10. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 9 (90%) of the 10 playgrounds in AZ lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 1 (10%) of the 10 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 1 (11%) of the 9 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 3 (30%) of 10 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 2 (20%) of 10 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 1 (10%) of 10 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS**: In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY**: In 4 (44%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS**: In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in, with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART**: In 2 (22%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS**: In 2 (22%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 1 (11%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 3 (33%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 2 (20%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

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Summary for CALIFORNIA

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

CALIFORNIA PIRG

Total Playgrounds in CA = 105. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 89 (85%) of the 105 playgrounds in CA lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 45 (43%) of the 105 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 36 (43%) of the 84 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 39 (39%) of 100 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 61 (59%) of 104 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 30 (31%) of 96 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS**: In 4 (4%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY**: In 19 (21%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS**: In 13 (16%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART**: In 10 (12%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS**: In 15 (17%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 46 (44%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 21 (20%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 43 (41%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for COLORADO

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

COLORADO PIRG AND CFA

Total Playgrounds in CO = 35. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 33 (94%) of the 35 playgrounds in CO lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 10 (32%) of the 31 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 6 (27%) of the 22 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 13 (37%) of 35 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 23 (74%) of 31 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 9 (28%) of 32 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--METAL/HARD SWINGS: In 5 (20%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY: In 16 (64%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS: In 2 (9%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in, with regular swings.

--SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART: In 6 (25%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS: In 1 (4%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 14 (44%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3 5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 12 (38%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 12 (34%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

Summary for CONNECTICUT

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

CONNECTICUT PIRG

Total Playgrounds in CT = 3. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 2 (67%) of the 3 playgrounds in CT lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 0 (0%) of the 2 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 1 (100%) of the 1 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 3 (100%) of 3 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 3 (100%) of 3 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 3 (100%) of 3 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--METAL/HARD SWINGS: In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY: In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS: In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART: In 0 (0%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS: In 0 (0%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 3 (100%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 3 (100%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 3 (100%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for DELAWARE

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

USPIRG

Total Playgrounds in DE = 15. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 15 (100%) of the 15 playgrounds in DE lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 6 (40%) of the 15 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 3 (23%) of the 13 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 9 (60%) of 15 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 10 (67%) of 15 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 5 (36%) of 14 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS:** In 3 (23%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY:** In 1 (8%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS:** In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART:** In 5 (38%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS:** In 11 (85%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 11 (73%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 11 (73%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 4 (27%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

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The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for WASHINGTON, DC

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE Local Survey Conducted By:

USPIRG AND CFA

Total Playgrounds in DC = 16. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 10 (63%) of the 16 playgrounds in DC lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 8 (50%) of the 16 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 7 (64%) of the 11 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 8 (50%) of 16 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 4 (25%) of 16 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 5 (33%) of 15 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS:** In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, some swing seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY:** In 6 (55%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than two swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS:** In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART:** In 5 (45%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS:** In 6 (55%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 12 (75%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 9 (56%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

8. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 3 (19%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

Note: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707

Summary for FLORIDA

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

FLORIDA PIRG AND FLORIDA CONSUMER ACTION NETWORK (FCAN)

Total Playgrounds in FL = 22. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 20 (91%) of the 22 playgrounds in FL lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 8 (36%) of the 22 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 9 (53%) of the 17 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 7 (35%) of 20 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 16 (76%) of 21 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 12 (60%) of 20 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS**: In 1 (5%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY**: In 1 (5%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS**: In 3 (16%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART**: In 1 (6%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS**: In 1 (6%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 12 (55%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 15 (71%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 10 (45%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

Summary for GEORGIA

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

USPIRG

Total Playgrounds in GA = 21 Surveyed nationally 760

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 21 (100%) of the 21 playgrounds in GA lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 15 (75%) of the 20 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 12 (75%) of the 16 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 9 (43%) of 21 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 12 (60%) of 20 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 12 (63%) of 19 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS:** In 1 (6%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY:** In 3 (18%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS:** In 5 (29%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART:** In 3 (19%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS:** In 4 (24%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 7 (33%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 12 (57%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 3 (14%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707

The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for HAWAII

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

USPIRG

Total Playgrounds in HI = 20. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 15 (75%) of the 20 playgrounds in HI lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 14 (70%) of the 20 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 8 (67%) of the 12 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 14 (70%) of 20 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 14 (74%) of 19 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 5 (31%) of 16 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS:** In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY:** In 5 (38%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2 swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS:** In 1 (8%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART:** In 5 (38%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS:** In 7 (54%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 10 (50%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3 5" and 9" increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 6 (32%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 5 (25%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

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The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for IOWA

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

USPIRG

Total Playgrounds in IA = 11. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 11 (100%) of the 11 playgrounds in IA lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 1 (9%) of the 11 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 0 (0%) of the 10 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 5 (45%) of 11 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 6 (55%) of 11 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 4 (36%) of 11 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--METAL/HARD SWINGS: In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY: In 3 (33%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS: In 6 (67%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART: In 4 (44%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS: In 2 (22%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 2 (18%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 1 (9%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 3 (27%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for ILLINOIS

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Local Survey Conducted By:

ILLINOIS PIRG

Total Playgrounds in IL = 20. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 20 (100%) of the 20 playgrounds in IL lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 2 (10%) of the 20 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 1 (5%) of the 19 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 6 (32%) of 19 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 17 (85%) of 20 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 0 (0%) of 19 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS:** In 3 (16%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY:** In 11 (58%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS:** In 1 (5%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in, with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART:** In 3 (17%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS:** In 6 (32%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 1 (6%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 3 (17%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 8 (40%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

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Summary for MASSACHUSETTS

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Local Survey Conducted By:

MASSPIRG

Total Playgrounds in MA = 52. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 45 (87%) of the 52 playgrounds in MA lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 19 (37%) of the 51 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 20 (43%) of the 47 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 20 (47%) of 43 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 28 (57%) of 49 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 25 (49%) of 51 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 52% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS**: In 18 (40%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY**: In 17 (38%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS**: In 7 (16%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART**: In 13 (29%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS**: In 5 (11%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 17 (34%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 19 (41%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 25 (48%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for MARYLAND

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

MARYLAND PIRG

Total Playgrounds in MD = 56. Surveyed nationally: 760

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 51 (91%) of the 56 playgrounds in MD lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 13 (25%) of the 53 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 8 (26%) of the 31 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 15 (27%) of 56 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 39 (74%) of 53 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 20 (38%) of 53 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS:** In 4 (12%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY:** In 5 (15%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS:** In 1 (4%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART:** In 11 (34%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS:** In 8 (24%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 23 (43%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 29 (55%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 31 (55%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for MICHIGAN

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Local Survey Conducted By:

MICHIGAN PIRG (PIRGIM)

Total Playgrounds in MI = 18. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 18 (100%) of the 18 playgrounds in MI lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 9 (50%) of the 18 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 3 (20%) of the 15 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 12 (67%) of 18 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 11 (65%) of 17 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 9 (64%) of 14 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS:** In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY:** In 1 (6%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS:** In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART:** In 2 (12%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS:** In 1 (6%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 12 (71%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9" increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 10 (56%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 4 (22%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for MONTANA

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

MONTANA PIRG

Total Playgrounds in MT = 30. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 30 (100%) of the 30 playgrounds in MT lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 20 (67%) of the 30 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 18 (69%) of the 26 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 25 (93%) of 27 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 26 (87%) of 30 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 19 (68%) of 28 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS:** In 1 (4%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY:** In 10 (38%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS:** In 6 (55%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART:** In 5 (19%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS:** In 8 (31%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 20 (67%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 18 (60%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 29 (97%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for NEW JERSEY

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

NEW JERSEY PIRG

Total Playgrounds in NJ = 12. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 12 (100%) of the 12 playgrounds in NJ lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 6 (50%) of the 12 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 4 (44%) of the 9 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 8 (67%) of 12 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 6 (50%) of 12 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 1 (10%) of 10 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS:** In 3 (30%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY:** In 2 (20%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS:** In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART:** In 1 (10%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS:** In 1 (10%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 5 (42%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 7 (58%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 8 (67%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for NEW YORK

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

NEW YORK PIRG

Total Playgrounds in NY = 117. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 90 (77%) of the 117 playgrounds in NY lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 46 (40%) of the 116 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 35 (40%) of the 88 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 45 (41%) of 110 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 64 (55%) of 116 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 41 (37%) of 110 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS:** In 19 (20%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY:** In 44 (46%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS:** In 9 (9%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART:** In 23 (23%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS:** In 23 (24%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 37 (32%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 41 (37%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 60 (51%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

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Summary for NEW MEXICO

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

NEW MEXICO PIRG

Total Playgrounds in NM = 21. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 21 (100%) of the 21 playgrounds in NM lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 9 (43%) of the 21 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 3 (19%) of the 16 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 7 (33%) of 21 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 7 (33%) of 21 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 8 (38%) of 21 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--METAL/HARD SWINGS: In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY: In 4 (24%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS: In 10 (59%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART: In 0 (0%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS: In 2 (12%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 3 (14%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3 5" and 9" increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 13 (62%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 6 (29%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for NORTH CAROLINA

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

NC CONSUMERS COUNCIL AND USPIRG

Total Playgrounds in NC = 27. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 27 (100%) of the 27 playgrounds in NC lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 14 (52%) of the 27 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 13 (57%) of the 23 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 9 (36%) of 25 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 13 (50%) of 26 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 8 (31%) of 26 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS:** In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY:** In 4 (17%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS:** In 4 (18%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART:** In 7 (30%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS:** In 8 (33%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 17 (63%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 8 (30%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 12 (44%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for OHIO

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

OHIO PIRG

Total Playgrounds in OH = 15. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 14 (93%) of the 15 playgrounds in OH lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 9 (60%) of the 15 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 8 (67%) of the 12 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 11 (73%) of 15 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 12 (80%) of 15 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 8 (53%) of 15 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS:** In 1 (8%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY:** In 4 (31%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS:** In 4 (31%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART:** In 4 (31%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS:** In 10 (77%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 12 (80%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 2 (14%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 4 (27%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

Summary for PENNSYLVANIA

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

PENNPARG & PENNSYLVANIA CITIZENS CONSUMER COUNCIL

Total Playgrounds in PA = 27. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 20 (74%) of the 27 playgrounds in PA lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 3 (12%) of the 25 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 7 (29%) of the 24 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 9 (33%) of 27 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 10 (40%) of 25 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 8 (33%) of 24 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS**: In 7 (29%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY**: In 10 (42%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS**: In 3 (13%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART**: In 11 (48%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS**: In 13 (62%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 3 (11%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 3 (11%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 5 (19%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

Summary for OREGON

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

OSPIRG

Total Playgrounds in OR = 25. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 25 (100%) of the 25 playgrounds in OR lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 5 (21%) of the 24 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 13 (62%) of the 21 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 15 (60%) of 25 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 25 (100%) of 25 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 6 (27%) of 22 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS**: In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY**: In 7 (30%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS**: In 3 (13%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART**: In 2 (9%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS**: In 2 (9%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 12 (48%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 6 (24%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 8 (32%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707

The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for TENNESSEE

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

CFA

Total Playgrounds in TN = 16. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 15 (94%) of the 16 playgrounds in TN lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 6 (38%) of the 16 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 10 (67%) of the 15 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 12 (75%) of 16 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 12 (75%) of 16 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 8 (57%) of 14 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS**: In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY**: In 6 (40%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS**: In 0 (0%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART**: In 7 (47%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS**: In 12 (80%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 11 (69%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 10 (63%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 3 (19%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

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The 1998 PIRG/CFA Playing It Safe Playground Survey

Summary for VIRGINIA

ALSO SEE PLAYGROUND BY PLAYGROUND SUMMARY--NEXT PAGE

Local Survey Conducted By:

VIRGINIA CITIZENS CONSUMER COUNCIL & USPIRG

Total Playgrounds in VA = 54. Surveyed nationally: 760.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING --

A total of 47 (87%) of the 54 playgrounds in VA lacked adequate surfacing. Nationally, 87% of playgrounds lacked adequate protective surfacing. A playground must have a minimum of 9" of loose fill or a synthetic surface to have adequate protective surfacing.

2a. FALL ZONES: CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

In 26 (48%) of the 54 playgrounds with climbers and slides, the fall zone around the equipment is **inadequate**. In the others, the fall zone is adequate. Nationally, 40% of 745 playgrounds with climbers and slides had **inadequate** fall zones.

2b. FALL ZONES: SWINGS --

In 15 (36%) of the 42 playgrounds with swings, the fall zone was **inadequate**. Nationally, 41% of the 592 playgrounds with swings had **inadequate** fall zones.

3. PAINT CHIPPING OR PEELING --

Surveyors noted that 18 (34%) of 53 playgrounds had chipping or peeling paint.

4. HEIGHT OF CLIMBERS AND SLIDES --

Climbers and slides should be no higher than 6 feet to prevent injury. Yet, 33 (63%) of 52 playgrounds had climbers greater than 6 feet high. 14 (29%) of 49 playgrounds had slides greater than 6 feet high. Nationally, 62% of 456 climbers and 37% of 704 slides were higher than 6 feet.

5. IMPACT WITH MOVING SWINGS --

--**METAL/HARD SWINGS:** In 4 (10%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings seats were made of hard, rigid material that could cause injury. Nationally, 12% of playgrounds contained hard swing seats.

--**MORE THAN TWO SWINGS/BAY:** In 12 (29%) of playgrounds with swings, some swings have more than 2/swings per bay, which could cause injury. Nationally, 31% of playgrounds had more than two swings per bay.

--**TOT SWINGS WITH REGULAR SWINGS:** In 10 (25%) of playgrounds with swings, tot swings were found in the same bay as regular swings, posing a hazard to younger children. Nationally, 15% of playgrounds had some tot swings mixed in with regular swings.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 24 INCHES APART:** In 13 (33%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 24 inches apart, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 23% of playgrounds had some swings less than 24 inches apart.

--**SWINGS NOT AT LEAST 30 INCHES FROM SUPPORTS:** In 10 (25%) of the playgrounds with swings, some swings were NOT at least 30 inches from support structures, increasing the risk of injury. Nationally, 26% of playgrounds had some swings less than 30 inches from support structures.

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS --

In 23 (43%) of playgrounds, some spaces between ladder rungs or supports or other parts of the playground were between 3.5" and 9", increasing the risk of head entrapment. Nationally, 42% of playgrounds had head entrapment hazards.

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS --

In 29 (54%) of playgrounds, small gaps (particularly at the tops of the slides or platforms), open S-hooks, or similar catchpoints existed, posing potential injury or death by strangulation if clothing entanglement (such as hood drawstrings) should occur. Nationally, 40% of playgrounds had clothing entanglement hazards.

7. HAZARDOUS EQUIPMENT --

A total of 31 (57%) playgrounds had hazardous equipment, such as climbing rings, individual climbing ropes, animal swings, or track rides or moving/sliding gates. Such equipment is unacceptable. Nationally 43% of playgrounds had at least one piece of hazardous equipment.

NOTE: Some totals do not equal total number of playgrounds. Not all playgrounds have swings, for example, and some surveys may not include a result in every box. For more information call CFA (202) 387-6121 or U.S. PIRG (202) 546-9707.

CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

			SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE? Climbers & Slides		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ. 6 FT OR LESS?		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
ST	City	Playground			Swings		Climber	Slide	Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance >24"	>30"	Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
AK	ANCHORAGE	ARCTIC PARK	Y	Y	Y	N	5.0	4.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
AK	ANCHORAGE	DAVID GREEN PARK	Y	Y		N	6.0	4.7					N	N	
AK	ANCHORAGE	DENALI SCHOOL	Y	Y	N	N	6.0	5.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
AK	ANCHORAGE	Eldeberry Park #1	I			Y	6.0	6.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
AK	ANCHORAGE	FRONTIER PARK #2	Y	Y	Y	N	5.5	5.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A
AK	ANCHORAGE	JEWEL LAKE PARK	Y	Y	N	N	4.5	4.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
AK	ANCHORAGE	KINCAID SCHOOL	Y	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
AK	ANCHORAGE	POP CARR	Y	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
AK	ANCHORAGE	ROGERS PARK SCHOOL	Y	Y	Y	N	5.0	5.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
AK	ANCHORAGE	SHADY BIRCH PARK	I	N		N	8.0	8.0	N	N			Y	Y	
AK	ANCHORAGE	TYSON SCHOOL	Y	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
AK	ANCHORAGE	VALLEY OF THE MOON PK	Y	Y	Y	Y	12.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y		
AZ	GILBERT	IRVING ELEMENTARY	I	Y	Y	Y	6.0	6.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N		
AZ	GLENDALE	CHAPPARAL PARK	I	Y	Y	N	5.3	5.2	N	N	Y	Y		N	A
AZ	GLENDALE	TIERRA BUENA PARK	I	Y		Y	5.8	5.8					N	N	
AZ	PHOENIX	CHILDTIME SCHOOL	I	Y	Y	N	5.2	5.2	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	
AZ	PHOENIX	MADISON SIMIS SCHOOL	Y	Y	Y	N	8.5	6.2	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	F
AZ	PHOENIX	Norton Park	I	Y	Y	Y	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
AZ	PHOENIX	Palma Park	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
AZ	PHOENIX	Sunrise Elementary	I	N	N	N	2.5	5.0	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	
AZ	TEMPE	DAUMLER PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	N	N	N	
AZ	TUSCON	HARELSON ELEMENTARY	I	Y	Y	N	10.0	6.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	BERKELEY	LE CONTE SCHOOL PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.7	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A, B, F
CA	BERKELEY	LIVE OAK CENTER PARK	I	N	N		10.0	7.5	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	F
CA	BERKELEY	MALCOM X SCHOOL PARK	Y	Y	Y	N	5.5	5.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A, B, F
CA	BERKELEY	OHCONC PARK	I	Y	N	N	7.0	7.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	F
CA	BERKELEY	WILLARD PARK	Y	Y		N	4.0	4.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	DAVIS	COMMEMORATIVE PARK	M	Y		N	5.0	4.0					N	N	
CA	DAVIS	COVELL GREENBELT #20	M	Y	N	Y	10.0	10.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	F, H
CA	DAVIS	DAVIS CENTRAL PARK	I	N	Y	N	6.3	4.7	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	DAVIS	DAVIS HIGH PARK	I	N	N	Y	8.0	5.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A, B

FOR EXPLANATION OF RESULTS,
SEE KEY BEFORE SUMMARY PAGES

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CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS			OTHER HAZARDS			
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance >24"	>30"	Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
CA	GOLETA	GOLETA BEACH	M	Y	Y	N	5.2	5.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	G
CA	IRVINE	DEERFIELD PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	9.5	7.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
CA	IRVINE	EL CAMINO REAL ELEMENTA I	I	N	N	N	6.0	6.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	IRVINE	HERITAGE PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	6.0	6.0	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	IRVINE	LOS NARANJOS ELEMENTAR I	I	Y	N	Y	4.0	4.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	IRVINE	NORTHWOOD COMMUNITY P I	I	Y	Y	Y	6.0	6.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	IRVINE	ORCHARD PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	4.5	4.5	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	A
CA	IRVINE	TURTLE ROCK PARK	I	Y	N	Y	6.5	6.5	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	A
CA	IRVINE	UNIVERSITY PARK ELEMENT. I	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	H
CA	IRVINE	VISTA VERDE ELEMENTARY	I	Y	N	Y	6.0	6.5	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	
CA	IRVINE	WILLIAM R. MASON	M	N	N	N	8.0	9.2	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	E
CA	ISLA VISTA	ANI SQ OYO PARK	H	N	N	N	3.0	7.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	ISLA VISTA	ISLA VISTA CHILDREN'S PARI H	I	Y	Y	N	12.0	12.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	LA JOLLA	LA JOLLA RECREATION CENT I	I	Y		N	6.0	5.0	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	A
CA	LA JOLLA	MESA APTS	I	Y	Y	Y	5.5	5.0	N		Y	Y	N	N	
CA	LOS ANGELES	BEETHOVEN SCHOOL	Y	N		N	7.5						Y	N	
CA	LOS ANGELES	BROADWAY ELEMENTARY	Y	N		N	8.0		N	N	N	N	N	N	
CA	LOS ANGELES	CHARNOCK ROAD SCHOOL	Y	N		N	11.8						Y	N	
CA	LOS ANGELES	CLOVER AVE SCHOOL	Y	N		N	6.9	3.9					Y	N	
CA	LOS ANGELES	CLOVER PARK	I	N	N		12.9	3.7	N	N		N	Y	Y	B
CA	LOS ANGELES	GRANDVIEW ELEMENTARY	Y	N		Y							Y	N	
CA	LOS ANGELES	PLAYGROUND	Y	N		N	8.5						N	N	
CA	LOS ANGELES	WALGROVE AVE SCHOOL	Y	N		N	11.5						Y	N	
CA	LOS ANGELES	WILDWOOD SCHOOL	I	N		Y	8.2	6.8					Y	N	F
CA	OAKLAND	ARTS ELEMENTARY	Y	N		N	6.8	5.4	N	N		Y	N	N	
CA	OAKLAND	BUSHROD #2 SW	I	Y		Y	5.0	5.0					Y	N	
CA	OAKLAND	BUSHROD #1 NE	H	N	Y	Y	4.8	5.0	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	
CA	OAKLAND	DEFEMERY PARK	I	N	N	Y	10.5	10.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	OAKLAND	EMERSON ELEM SCHOOL	I	N		N	4.8	4.2					Y	N	
CA	OAKLAND	HARDY PARK	M	N		Y	9.7						Y	Y	
CA	OAKLAND	LAKESIDE PARK	I	Y	N	N	6.0	6.0	N	N		Y	N	N	F

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CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance		Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
							Climber	Slide			>24"	>30"			
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
CA	OAKLAND	LINCOLN	I	N	N	Y	13.0	7.8	N	Y	Y		Y	N	
CA	OAKLAND	LOWELL PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	3.5	3.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	OAKLAND	MARSTON CAMPBELL PARK	M	Y	Y	N	7.5	5.3	N	Y	N	N	N	N	
CA	OAKLAND	MOSSWOOD PARK	I	Y	N	Y	8.8	6.3	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	
CA	OAKLAND	PIEDMONT AVENUE SCHOOL	Y	Y		N	6.0	6.0					N	N	B
CA	OAKLAND	WADE JOHNSON PARK	M	N			9.5	4.3					N	N	
CA	PASADENA	ALLENDALE ELEMENTARY	I	Y	N	Y	5.5	6.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	PASADENA	ALLENDALE PARK (P&F)	I	N	Y	N	8.3	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	PASADENA	E WASHINGTON AND PEPPEL	I	N	N	Y	8.3	4.9	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	PASADENA	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	I	Y	N	N	8.0	5.4	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
CA	PASADENA	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	M	N	N	N	6.9	6.9	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
CA	PASADENA	JEFFERSON PARK	I	Y	N	N	8.9	5.6	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	PASADENA	LONGFELLOW	I	N	N	N	8.5	5.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	PASADENA	MADISON WEST PRESCHOOL	I	Y	Y	N	5.0	5.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	PASADENA	MARENAS ELEMENTARY SCH	M	N	N	N	8.0	5.0	N	N	Y	N	N	N	
CA	PASADENA	MONTERREY HILLS SCHOOL	M	Y	Y	N	5.0	5.0	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	
CA	SACRAMENTO	BERTHA HERSCHEL PARK	Y	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	A
CA	SACRAMENTO	FAST PORTAL	I	Y	N	N	5.3	5.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	SACRAMENTO	FREMONT PARK	I	Y	N	N	6.3	6.3	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	
CA	SACRAMENTO	MCCLATCHEY PARK	Y	Y	Y	N	5.0	5.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A,B
CA	SACRAMENTO	MCKINLEY PARK	I	N	Y		8.0	6.0	N	N			N	Y	A,B,H
CA	SACRAMENTO	MUIR PARK PLAYGROUND	Y	N	Y	N	11.0	5.8	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	SACRAMENTO	OAK PARK COMMUNITY PLAY	I	Y	Y	N	9.5	9.8	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A,B
CA	SACRAMENTO	SOUTHSIDE PARK	I	N	Y	N	8.0	5.5	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	A,B
CA	SACRAMENTO	WILLIAM LAND PARK	I	N	N	N	8.0	8.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	B
CA	SACRAMENTO	ZAPATA PARK	I	N	N	Y	17.0	11.0	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	
CA	SAN DIEGO	ADAMS AVE PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	5.9	5.9	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	B
CA	SAN DIEGO	BALBOA PARK	M	Y	Y	N	15.0	5.6	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	
CA	SAN DIEGO	BALBOA PARK NORTH PARK	H	Y		N	5.9	5.9	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	SAN DIEGO	DOYLE PARK	M	N	Y	Y	5.0	4.5	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	A
CA	SAN DIEGO	JOHN ADAMS SCHOOL	I	Y		Y	4.6	4.1					Y	N	

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CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ. 6 FT OR LESS?		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				& Slides	Swings		Climber	Slide	Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance		Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
						<=6 FT					<=6 FT	>24"			
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
CA	SAN DIEGO	MISSION BAY PARK 1	I	Y	Y	N	8.9	8.9	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	B, F
CA	SAN DIEGO	MISSION BAY PARK 2	I	Y	Y	Y	8.9	8.9	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	B, F
CA	SAN DIEGO	MISSION HILLS PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	8.8	5.9	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	SAN DIEGO	N PARK COMMUNITY ADULT	I	Y	Y	Y	5.0	7.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
CA	SAN DIEGO	PARK	I	Y	N	Y	6.0	3.8	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	
CA	SAN DIEGO	ROBB FIELD	I	Y	Y	Y	8.5	8.5	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	
CA	SAN DIEGO/OCE	DUSTY RHODES PARK	I	Y	N		7.5	7.9	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	G
CA	SAN DIEGO/PAC	KATE SESSIONS ELEMENTAF	I	N	Y	N	8.0	6.0	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	A
CA	SAN DIEGO/PAC	KATE SESSIONS PARK	I	N	N	Y	13.0	5.8	N	Y	N	Y	Y		
CA	SAN FRANCISCO	CIVIC CENTER TOT LOT	Y	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
CA	SAN FRANCISCO	M. S. HAYWARD PLAYGRND	I	Y	Y	N	8.0	8.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A, F
CA	SAN FRANCISCO	MOSCONE	I	Y	N	N	7.5	7.5	N	Y	N	N	N	N	F
CA	SAN FRANCISCO	WASHINGTON SQUARE PK	I	Y	Y	N	7.0	7.0	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	F
CA	SANTA BARBARA	ALAMEDA PARK	I	N	Y	N	14.8	7.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	B, F
CA	SANTA BARBARA	BOHNETT PARK	H	Y	Y	N	4.7	4.7	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	B, F
CA	SANTA BARBARA	OAK PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.3	6.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	F
CA	SANTA BARBARA	ORTEGA PARK	H	Y	Y	N	8.5	5.8	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	SANTA BARBARA	PEABODY ELEMENTARY	I	Y	Y	N	5.5	5.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	SANTA BARBARA	ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY	H	N		N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	H
CA	SANTA CRUZ	DERBY PARK	Y	Y	Y	N	6.7	2.8	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	F
CA	SANTA CRUZ	FREDERICK PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.6	3.4	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	A, F
CA	SANTA CRUZ	GARFIELD PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	3.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	SANTA CRUZ	LAUREL PARK	I	N	N	N	5.3	2.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CA	SANTA CRUZ	NATURAL BRIDGES ELEM	H	Y	N	Y	8.4	3.0	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	B, F
CA	SANTA CRUZ	OCEANVIEW PARK	I	N	N	N	5.2		N	N	N	N	Y	Y	
CA	SANTA CRUZ	SAN LORENZO	I	N	N	Y	9.1		N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
CA	SANTA CRUZ	STAR OF THE SEA PARK	I	N	Y	Y	6.8	4.0	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	C, F
CA	SANTA CRUZ	UNIVERSITY TERRACE	I	N		Y	5.3	3.0	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	B
CA	SANTA CRUZ	WESTLAKE PARK	I	N	N	Y	7.9	2.5	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	
CA	SANTA MONICA	LINCOLN PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	6.2	6.2	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	A
CA	SANTA MONICA	PLAYGROUND	I	Y	Y	Y	5.3	5.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	H

FOR EXPLANATION OF RESULTS,
SEE KEY BEFORE SUMMARY PAGES

CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance		Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
							Climber	Slide			>24"	>30"			
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
CA	VENICE	CANAL ST PARK	I	N	Y	N	4.8	4.8	N	N	Y	N	N	N	
CA	VENICE	DEWEY PLAYGROUND	I	N	N	Y	6.8	5.5	N	N		Y	Y	Y	
CA	VENICE	PENMAR PARK	I	Y	Y	N	5.4	5.4	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	F
CO	BOULDER	AT SCHOOL	M			N							N	N	
CO	BOULDER	CANYON PARK	I	Y	Y	N		4.5	N	N	N	Y	N	N	
CO	BOULDER	CASEY SCHOOL PARK	I	Y	Y	N	8.0	3.8							
CO	BOULDER	CHATA AVE	I	Y	Y	N	5.9	5.9	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CO	BOULDER	EAST BOULDER COMMUNITY I		Y		N	4.4	4.4	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CO	BOULDER	EB STATE PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	4.5	4.5	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	
CO	BOULDER	MARTIN ACRES	I	Y	Y	N	7.3	7.3	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
CO	BOULDER	SCHOOL	I	Y	Y	N	6.1	4.9	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	
CO	BOULDER	SCOTT CARPENTER PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	9.9	5.7	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	E
CO	BOULDER	WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY I	I	Y		N	8.5	5.9	N	Y			N	N	
CO	COLORADO SPR	ACACIA PARK	M	Y		N	6.8	6.0					N	N	
CO	COLORADO SPR	BONFORTE PARK	M		Y	Y		6.0	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	
CO	COLORADO SPR	CORPUS CHRISTI ELEMENTARY	M	N	N	N	9.5	9.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	F
CO	COLORADO SPR	LINCOLN ELEMENTARY	M		Y	N		5.3	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
CO	COLORADO SPR	LINCOLN SCHOOL	M	Y	Y	N	9.1	7.6	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CO	COLORADO SPR	MONUMENT VALLEY PARK	M	N	Y	Y	5.6	5.6	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	
CO	COLORADO SPR	STEELE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	M	Y		N	8.6	6.3					Y	Y	
CO	DENVER	CHEESMAN PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.8	5.5	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	B
CO	DENVER	CITY PARK (EAST SIDE)	I			Y	6.8	2.0	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	A,B,F
CO	DENVER	CONGRESS PARK	I	N	Y	Y	8.5	2.0	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	B
CO	DENVER	DPS	I	Y		Y	7.0		N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	F
CO	DENVER	HECTOR M FLORES	I	Y		N	10.0	2.0					N		
CO	DENVER	MONTCLAIR ELEMENTARY	I	N	N	N	7.3	7.3	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	F
CO	DENVER	MONTVIEW PRESBYTERIAN	I	Y		N	4.5	4.5					Y	Y	A,B,F
CO	DENVER	RICHTOFEN PARK	I	N	Y	N	7.3	4.8	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	A,F
CO	DENVER	TURTLE PARK	I	Y	N	N	8.5	5.5	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	B
CO	DENVER	WARREN VILLAGE	Y	Y	Y	N	2.5	2.3	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	
CO	DENVER	WYMAN	I	Y	Y	N	6.5	2.2	Y	Y	N	N	N		F

FOR EXPLANATION OF RESULTS,
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CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ. 6 FT OR LESS?		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		Climber	Slide	Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance		Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
											>24"	>30"			
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
CO	PUEBLO	CITY PARK	M	N	N	Y	11.0	11.0	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
CO	PUEBLO	FAIRMOUNT PARK WEST SID M		N	N	Y	6.0	9.6	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
CO	PUEBLO	HAAFF ELEM SCHOOL-OLDEI M		N		Y	7.5	6.6					Y	Y	
CO	PUEBLO	HAAFF ELEM SCHOOL-YOUN M		N		Y	6.0	4.0						Y	
CO	PUEBLO	MINERAL PALACE PARK PLGM	N		N	Y	12.0	12.0	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
CO	PUEBLO	MORTON ELEMENTARY SCH(I		Y		Y	7.5							Y	A
CO	PUEBLO	NATURE CENTER PLAYGROL Y		Y		N	8.0	4.8					Y	Y	
CT	HARTFORD	GOODWIN PARK	I	Y		Y	6.8	7.8					Y	Y	A
CT	HARTFORD	JFK MEMORIAL PARK	Y	Y	N	Y	11.0	7.9	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	A
CT	HARTFORD	POPE PARK	M			Y	9.6	6.7					Y	Y	B, F
DC	WASHINGTON	DENT SCHOOL	I	N		N	5.0	5.0					Y	Y	
DC	WASHINGTON	GARFIELD PARK	M	N	Y	Y	6.0		N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
DC	WASHINGTON	GUY MASON REC CENTER	I	Y	Y	N	8.0	8.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
DC	WASHINGTON	HAINS POINT/NPS	Y	Y		N	6.0	6.0					Y	N	
DC	WASHINGTON	HARDY	M	N	N	Y	6.0	7.0	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	A
DC	WASHINGTON	LINCOLN PARK	Y	N		N	4.5	4.5					Y	N	
DC	WASHINGTON	MACOMB	H	Y	N	Y	3.7	3.0	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	
DC	WASHINGTON	MAURY ELEMENTARY	Y	Y	N	N	5.5	5.5	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	
DC	WASHINGTON	MONTROSE PARK-NPS	M	N	N	Y	10.0	6.0	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	
DC	WASHINGTON	PALISADES PARK	Y	Y	N	Y	7.5	7.5	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	A
DC	WASHINGTON	ROSE PARK	M	N	Y	Y	6.0	8.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	F
DC	WASHINGTON	STEAD REC CENTER	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
DC	WASHINGTON	STODDERT PLAYGROUND	I	Y	N	Y	6.0	6.0	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	
DC	WASHINGTON	TOT PLAYGROUND IN PARK	Y	Y		N	4.0	4.0					Y	N	
DC	WASHINGTON	VOLTA PARK-GEORGETOWN I		N	N	Y	6.8	6.8	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
DC	WASHINGTON	WATKINS ELEMENTARY	Y	N		N	5.5	5.5					Y	N	
DE	NEWARK	CHAPEL HILL PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	7.2	4.5	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	
DE	NEWARK	DICKEY PARK	I	N		N	8.0	3.9					Y	N	
DE	NEWARK	DICKEY PARK NORTH	M	N	Y	Y	8.0	5.7	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	
DE	NEWARK	DICKEY PARK WEST	H	Y	Y	N	6.0		N	N	Y	N	N	Y	
DE	NEWARK	FAIRFIELD CREST PARK	M	N	Y	Y	7.0	7.0	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	

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PIRG/CFA 1998 PLAYING IT SAFE NATIONAL PLAYGROUND SURVEY: Playground Results By State

CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance		Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
							Climber	Slide			>24"	>30"			
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
DE	NEWARK	FAIRFIELD PARK	M	N	Y	Y	7.0	7.0	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	D, F
DE	NEWARK	FIRST CHURCH OF NAZAREN H		Y	N	N	7.8	7.0	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	D, F
DE	NEWARK	GEORGE WILSON PARK	M	Y	Y	N	7.6	3.9	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	
DE	NEWARK	HIDDEN VALLEY PARK	I	Y	N	Y	6.6	6.6	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	F
DE	NEWARK	JOHN DOWNS ELEMENTAR	I	N	Y	Y	6.5	6.5	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	A, B, F
DE	NEWARK	LEWIS PARK	M	Y	Y	Y	5.0	5.0	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	
DE	NEWARK	LUMBROOK PARK	M	N	N	Y	7.3	4.5	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	
DE	NEWARK	PARK PLACE PARK	I	Y		Y	6.0	6.0					Y	Y	
DE	NEWARK	R ELIZABETH MACLARY ELE	I	Y	Y	N	3.0	3.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
DE	NEWARK	WEST PARK PLACE ELEM	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	
FL	TALLAHASSEE	A J HENRY PARK	I	N			9.6	7.8	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	B, F
FL	TALLAHASSEE	CAMPBELL POND	I	N		N	7.4	3.4	N	N		Y	Y	Y	
FL	TALLAHASSEE	CAPITAL PARK	I	N	N	Y	6.7	6.7	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	E
FL	TALLAHASSEE	KAUCKY PARK	H	Y	Y	N	9.7		N	N	N	N	N	Y	
FL	TALLAHASSEE	LEVY PARK	H	Y	N	Y	8.6	8.6	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	D
FL	TALLAHASSEE	MYERS PARK	I	N	Y	Y	6.2	6.2	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A
FL	TALLAHASSEE	OPTIMIST PARK	I	Y	N	Y	6.9	4.5	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	D, E
FL	TALLAHASSEE	SAN LUIS MISSION PARK	I	N		N	6.2	6.2					N	N	A
FL	TALLAHASSEE	TOM BROWN PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.2	6.2	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A
FL	TALLAHASSEE	WINTHROP PARK	H	N	N	Y	9.8	9.8	N	N	Y	Y	Y		D, E
FL	TAMPA	A T. ROLINS PARK	I	Y	Y	N	7.0	7.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
FL	TAMPA	ANDERSON PARK	I	Y	N	Y	6.9	6.9	N	N	Y		N	N	
FL	TAMPA	BALLAST POINT	I	Y	Y	N			N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
FL	TAMPA	COPELAND PARK	I	Y		N	4.2	4.2					N	Y	
FL	TAMPA	DAVIS ISLANDS PARK	I	Y	N	N	5.6	5.6	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
FL	TAMPA	HIMES COMPLEX	Y	N			6.5	6.5	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
FL	TAMPA	HUBERT PARK	Y	Y	N	N	4.6	4.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
FL	TAMPA	LOWRY PARK	I	Y	N	N	3.6	3.6	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
FL	TAMPA	MCFARLANE	I	Y	N	N	3.8	4.0	N	N			Y	Y	
FL	TAMPA	PICNIC ISLAND PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	8.9	6.6	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	B
FL	TAMPA	PORT TAMPA PARK	M	N	Y	N	9.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	

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CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance		Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
							Climber	Slide			>24"	>30"			
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
FL	TAMPA	SKYVIEW PLAYGROUND	M	Y	Y	N	6.8	6.8	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	F
GA	ATLANTA	ADAIR I PARK	H		N	N			N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	
GA	ATLANTA	ARDMORE PARK	I	N	N	N	5.3	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
GA	ATLANTA	BROWNWOOD PARK	H	Y		Y	8.0		N	N		Y	N	Y	
GA	ATLANTA	CANDLER PARK	I	N	N	Y	7.1	7.1	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	
GA	ATLANTA	CHASTAIN PARK	M	N	N	Y	5.8	6.9	N	N	N	N	N	N	
GA	ATLANTA	COLLIER PARK	I	Y		N	8.0	6.4					N	N	B
GA	ATLANTA	FRANKIE ALLEN PARK	I	N		N	6.2	6.9					Y	N	
GA	ATLANTA	GRANT PARK	I	N	Y	N	7.5	7.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
GA	ATLANTA	HOWELL PARK	M	N	N	N	6.1	6.1	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	F
GA	ATLANTA	IVERSON PARK	I	N	N	Y	4.7	4.7	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
GA	ATLANTA	MCCLATCHEY PARK	I	N	N	N	6.1	4.1	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
GA	ATLANTA	NARWELL HEIGHTS PARK	I	Y		N	4.8	4.8					N	N	
GA	ATLANTA	OAKLAND CITY PARK	I	N	N	Y	7.3	6.1	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
GA	ATLANTA	PERKERSON PARK	I	N	N	Y	7.6	8.8	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	
GA	ATLANTA	PIEDMONT PK PLAYScape	I	Y	Y	Y	6.0	16.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
GA	ATLANTA	PITTMAN PARK	I	N	N	Y	7.4	5.5	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	
GA	ATLANTA	SOUTH BEND PARK	I	N		N	7.6	6.1					N	Y	
GA	ATLANTA	SPRINGDALE PARK	I	Y	Y	N	4.5	4.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
GA	ATLANTA	SPRINGVALE PARK	I	N	N	Y	7.5	7.5	N	N	Y	N	N	N	
GA	ATLANTA	TARRYARD CREEK PARK	I	N	N	N	5.8	3.8	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
GA	ATLANTA	WINN PARK	I	N	Y	N	4.3	6.2	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	H
HI	EWA BEACH	HOLUMUA ELEMENTARY #1	Y	N		N	10.0	5.0					N	N	
HI	EWA BEACH	HOLUMUA ELEMENTARY #2	Y	N		N	10.0	8.0					N		
HI	EWA BEACH	SUN TERRA	M	N	N	Y	7.5	4.4	N	N	N	N	N	N	
HI	HONOLULU	AINA HAINA ELEMENTARY #1	I	Y	Y	Y	10.5	5.3	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	
HI	HONOLULU	AINA HAINA ELEMENTARY #2	M	N	N	Y	10.0	6.0	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	B
HI	HONOLULU	DOLL PARK	M	N	N	Y	5.0		N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	F
HI	HONOLULU	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	H	N	N	N	3.5	3.5					N	N	
HI	HONOLULU	KAMAMALU PARK	H	N	Y	Y	5.9	5.9	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	D
HI	HONOLULU	KAMANELE SQUARE	H	N	N	Y	7.9	4.3	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	

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ST City Playground			SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS			OTHER HAZARDS			
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance >24"	>30"	Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
HI	HONOLULU	KAPAOLONO PARK	H	N	N	Y			N	N	N	N	N	N	
HI	HONOLULU	MAKIKI DISTRICT PARK	Y	Y	Y	Y	6.5	6.5	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	
HI	HONOLULU	MARVA V DIST PARK	H	N	N	N	8.0		N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
HI	HONOLULU	QUEEN KAAHAMANO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL		Y		Y	9.1	4.0					N	N	H
HI	HONOLULU	ROYAL SCHOOL	H	N		Y	8.9						N	Y	
HI	HONOLULU	ZIHO LIHO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL		Y		N	7.0	7.0					N	N	
HI	KAILUA	KAILUA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL		N		Y	6.0	5.0	N	N	N	N	Y	N	
HI	KAILUA	PLAYGROUND	Y	Y		N	6.5	5.6	N	N	Y	N	N	N	
HI	KANEOHE	HEEIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL		N		Y	9.0	6.5					Y	N	
HI	KANEOHE	KANEOHE PLAYGROUND	H	N	N	Y	5.0	5.0	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	
HI	WAIMAMOLO	WAIMAMOLO BEACH PARK	Y	Y	Y	Y	6.8	6.8	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	B
IA	DAVENPORT	HERRINGTON PK	M	Y	Y	Y	7.9	7.9	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
IA	DAVENPORT	MCHENRY PARK	M	Y	Y	Y	4.5	3.3	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	
IA	DAVENPORT	PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	7.1	5.9	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
IA	DAVENPORT	PLAYGROUND	I	Y	Y	Y	5.5	5.5	N	N	N	N	N	N	F
IA	DAVENPORT	VANDERVEER BOTANICAL GARDEN		N	Y	N	6.1	6.1	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
IA	DES MOINES	GRAYS LAKE PARK	I	Y	Y	N	5.9	7.4	N	N	N	Y	N	N	F
IA	DES MOINES	LUCAS ELEMENTARY	I	Y	Y	Y	5.5	5.9					Y	N	
IA	DES MOINES	PLAYGROUND	I	Y	Y	N	6.3	5.2	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
IA	DES MOINES	WHITMER PARK	I	Y	Y	N	7.5	5.2	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
IA	DES MOINES	WILLARD ELEMENTARY	I	Y		N	7.5	7.3					N	N	A,B,F
IA	HUXLEY	MEMORIAL PARK	I	Y	Y	N	2.7	2.7	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	
IL	CHICAGO	BRIAR PLAYLOT	I	Y	Y	N	9.0	2.3	N	Y		N	N	N	
IL	CHICAGO	CHILDREN'S PLAYLOT	I	Y	Y	Y	9.0		N	N	Y	N	N	N	
IL	CHICAGO	COMMISSIONER PARK	I	Y	Y	N	8.0	1.9	N	Y	N	Y			E
IL	CHICAGO	DOWNEY PARK	I	Y	Y	N	9.5	2.9	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
IL	CHICAGO	EVERGREEN	I	Y	Y	Y	6.0	2.3	N	N	N	Y			
IL	CHICAGO	FOSCO	I	Y	Y	N	8.5	3.0	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	A
IL	CHICAGO	GARIBALDI	I	Y	Y	N	8.0	2.7	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	A
IL	CHICAGO	GILL PARK	I	Y	Y	N	9.0	3.0	N	N	N	Y	N	N	
IL	CHICAGO	JAMES HUMBERT PL	I	Y	Y	Y	8.5	2.2	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	A

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ST	City	Playground		Climber	Slide		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance >24"	>30"	Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip		
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
IL	CHICAGO	JOHN W. NEEDLES PARK	I	N	Y	N	8.5	2.7	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
IL	CHICAGO	LE MOYNE PUBLIC PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	4.0	2.5	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	
IL	CHICAGO	N. MAYFAIR PLAYLOT PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	9.0	3.3	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
IL	CHICAGO	NETTLEHURST PUBLIC SCH. CM		Y		N	4.0	3.5					N	N	
IL	CHICAGO	OZ PARK	I	N	N	N	7.0	2.5	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	F
IL	CHICAGO	SANDRIDGE PARK DISTRICT	I	Y	Y	N	9.0	2.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
IL	CHICAGO	SKINNER PARK	I	Y	Y		8.5	3.0	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	
IL	CHICAGO	TREBES PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.5	4.0	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	A, F
IL	CHICAGO	TRIPP (GOMPERS) PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	7.3	2.6	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	
IL	CHICAGO	WARREN	I	Y	Y	N	9.0	2.5	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	F
IL	CHICAGO	WENDT PLAYLOT PARK	I	Y	Y	N	8.5	2.3	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	A
MA	ARLINGTON	ARLINGTON HS	I	Y	Y		6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
MA	ARLINGTON	PARK 1	I	Y	N		11.5	11.5	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	B
MA	ARLINGTON	PARK 2	I	N	N		9.0	6.5	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
MA	BARNSTABLE	BARNSTABLE COMMUNITY PI		Y	Y	N	7.0	7.0	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	B
MA	BARNSTABLE	BARNSTABLE/W. BARNSTABL M		N	Y	Y	6.0	3.0	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	
MA	BOSTON	BOSTON COMMON PLAYGR. CM		N	Y		7.2	2.5					N	N	
MA	BOSTON	GREEN ST	I	N	Y		9.0	5.5	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	D, F
MA	BOSTON	PARK	Y	N		N	6.2	6.2					Y	N	
MA	BOSTON	PARK	Y	N		Y	7.7	7.7					N		A, F
MA	BOSTON (CHAR	PARK	Y	Y	N	Y	4.7	4.7	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
MA	BOSTON (CHAR	PARK	Y	Y	Y	N	5.2	5.2	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	A
MA	BOSTON (CHAR	PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.6	6.6	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
MA	BOSTON (CHAR	RYAN PLAYGROUND	I	Y	Y	N	5.7	5.7	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A, F
MA	BOSTON (S)	COLUMBUS PARK/#2	I	N	N	Y	12.0	6.0	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	C
MA	BOSTON (S)	COLUMBUS PARK/DOROTHY I		N	Y	Y	12.0	3.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	F
MA	BOSTON (S)	COLUMBUS PARK/MARY TIEF I		Y	Y	Y	14.0	10.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	C
MA	DARTMOUTH	ANDREA CUSHMAN SCHOOL	I	N	Y	Y	5.7	8.0	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	B, F
MA	DARTMOUTH	APPONGANSETT	M	Y	Y	Y	5.0	5.7	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
MA	DARTMOUTH	JONES PARK	I	Y	Y	N	3.9	5.5	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	
MA	DARTMOUTH	RUSSELL MILLS LANDING	I	Y	Y	N	5.8	4.9	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	

FOR EXPLANATION OF RESULTS,
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CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

			SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
ST	City	Playground		Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?	Climber	Slide	Hard Seal?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance >24"	>30"	Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
MA	DARTMOUTH	POTTER ELEMENTARY	I	N		N	5.0	4.9					N	Y	B,F
MA	DEDHAM	CONDON MEMORIAL PARK	M	N	N	Y	5.7	5.7	Y	N	N	N	N	N	E
MA	DEDHAM	PAUL SULLIVAN FIELD	M	N	N	Y	6.4	7.4	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	E
MA	FRAMINGHAM	199	M	Y	Y	N	6.2	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
MA	FRAMINGHAM	BROPHY SCHOOL	I	Y	Y	N	8.3	8.3	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	
MA	FRAMINGHAM	HEMENWAY ELEMENTARY	I	Y	Y	N	9.0	9.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A
MA	FRAMINGHAM	JUNIPER HILL ELEMENTARY	I	Y	Y	N	6.5	6.5	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	A
MA	FRAMINGHAM	MARY STAPLETON ELEMENT I	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	5.0	N	N	Y	Y	N		
MA	FRAMINGHAM	MIRIAM MCCARTHY ELEMEN I	I	N	N		5.5	5.5	N	N	Y	Y	Y		
MA	FRAMINGHAM	POTTER RD SCHOOL	I	Y	Y	Y	6.0	8.0	N	N	Y	Y	N		
MA	LAWRENCE	PARISH RD. MEMORIAL PK.	I	Y	Y	N	10.0	6.2							
MA	LOWELL	FR MCGURE PARK (NEW)	I	Y		Y	6.2	6.2					Y		
MA	LOWELL	FR MCGURE PARK (OLD)	M	Y	Y	Y	6.8	7.8	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	E
MA	LOWELL	SHEDD PARK	I	Y	N	Y	8.2	8.2	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	E
MA	MILTON	JOHN KELLY FIELD	Y	Y	N	N	6.1	6.0	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
MA	MILTON	LANE PLAYGROUND	Y	N	N	Y	5.5	5.5	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	A
MA	NATICK	ALBEE LOCKER PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	6.5	4.9	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	
MA	NATICK	PARK	M	Y	Y	N	6.3	3.0	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	
MA	NEEDHAM	CLAXTON	M	N	N	Y	4.9	3.6	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	C
MA	NEEDHAM	DEFAZIO TOT LOT	Y	Y	N	N	4.4	5.3	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	
MA	NEW BEDFORD	BELLVILLE	M	Y	Y	N		11.6	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	A
MA	NEW BEDFORD	BROOKLAWN PARK	M	Y	N	Y	2.0	17.0	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	A
MA	NEW BEDFORD	BUTTONWOOD	I	Y	N	N	3.9	5.2	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	
MA	NEW BEDFORD	PURCHASE	M	Y	N	Y	2.8	8.4	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	B
MA	SALEM	FOREST RIVER PARK (NEW)	I	Y	Y	N	8.0	7.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A, B
MA	SALEM	FOREST RIVER PARK (OLD)	H	Y	Y	N		4.5	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	
MA	SPRINGFIELD	DUBERRY ELEMENTARY	M	N			10.0	6.0					N	Y	B
MA	SPRINGFIELD	PARK	H	N	N		10.0	8.0	N	N	N	Y		N	
MA	WEYMOUTH	JULIA RD PLAYGROUND	M	N	N	Y	5.3	7.9	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	
MA	WEYMOUTH	KIDS LANDING	I	N	N	N	7.6	7.6	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	A,B
MA	WEYMOUTH	OSULLIVAN PLAYGROUND	M		N				N	Y	Y	N	N	N	

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CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance		Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
							Climber	Slide			>24"	>30"			
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
MA	WEYMOUTH	WEBB PARK	M	Y	N	N	6.2	5.2	N	Y	N	N	N	N	
MD	ANNAPOLIS	TYLER ELEMENTARY	I	Y		N	7.0	4.4					N	N	
MD	BALTIMORE CO	POWDERMILL RUN PARK	M	Y	Y	Y	7.3	4.2	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	A, F
MD	BALTIMORE	ABELL COMMUNITY OPEN SFM			Y	N			N	Y	N	N	N	Y	
MD	BALTIMORE	CHINQUAPIN PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.9	6.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A
MD	BALTIMORE	DRUID HILL PARK SOUTH	I	Y	Y	Y	6.0	7.4	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	A
MD	BALTIMORE	GOVANS PRESBYTERIAN ELE				N	6.1	3.8					Y	N	A
MD	BALTIMORE	LAKE HILTON PARK	I	Y		N	6.8	6.2					N	N	A
MD	BALTIMORE	LIBERTY ELEMENTARY	I	Y	Y	N	9.0	5.4	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	A, B, F
MD	BALTIMORE	MALCOM X	M	Y		N	7.3	4.6					N	Y	A, B
MD	BALTIMORE	NORTH CALVERT	I	N	N	N									
MD	BALTIMORE	NORTHWOOD ELEMENTARY	I	Y		N	7.9	6.3					N	N	A
MD	BALTIMORE	PLAYGROUND	I	Y	Y	N	7.8	6.6	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	A, C, F
MD	BALTIMORE	PLAYGROUND	I	Y		N	6.5	4.3					N	N	A, B
MD	BALTIMORE	PLAYGROUND	M	Y		Y	7.3	5.2					N	N	A
MD	BALTIMORE	ROOSEVELT PARK	H	Y	Y	N	7.3	6.1	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	A, F
MD	BALTIMORE	WYMAN PARK	I	Y	N	N	6.1	6.0	N	N	N	Y	N	N	A, B
MD	BALTIMORE	WYMAN PARK (NORTH)	I	Y	Y	N	2.8	2.8	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
MD	BALTIMORE CO	CATONSVILLE COMM. PARK	I	N	N	N	14.4	10.3	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	A, B, F
MD	BALTIMORE CO	ROLLINGWOOD PARK	I	Y		N	6.8	4.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
MD	CALIFORNIA	WILDEWOOD NEIGHBR COM	I	Y	N	N	5.4	3.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	
MD	CATONVILLE	HILLCREST ELEMENTARY	I	N		Y	15.0	5.4					N	Y	A, B, F
MD	COLLEGE PARK	CALVERT PARK	I	Y	Y	N	5.3	5.3	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	F
MD	COLLEGE PARK	COLLEGE PARK NURSERY	I	N	Y	N	3.5	3.5					N	Y	
MD	COLLEGE PARK	GRADUATE GARDENS	I	Y	Y	N	4.3	4.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
MD	COLUMBIA	JEFFERS HILL SCHOOL	I	Y		N	6.0	6.0					Y	N	
MD	COLUMBIA	MD SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF	H			Y	6.7	5.8	N	N	N	N	Y		A, C
MD	COLUMBIA	WATERLOO COMM. PARK	I	Y	Y	N	7.0	7.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
MD	COLUMBIA	WATERLOO ELEMENTARY	I	N		N	7.0	6.0					Y	N	
MD	ELLCOT CITY	HOLLOFIELD AREA	I	Y	Y	Y	8.0	2.3	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	A
MD	ELLCOT CITY	HOLLOFIELD ELEMENTARY	I	Y		N	7.5	7.0					N	N	

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PIRG/CFA 1998 PLAYING IT SAFE NATIONAL PLAYGROUND SURVEY: Playground Results By State

CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE? Climbers & Slides		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ. 6 FT OR LESS?		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Swings			Climber	Slide	Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance >24"	>30"	Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
MD	HOWARD CITY	CENTENNIAL ELEMENTARY	M	Y		Y	5.0	5.0					Y	N	A
MD	HOWARD CITY	CLARKSVILLE ELEMENTARY	I	Y		Y	8.0	6.0					Y	Y	A, F
MD	HOWARD CITY	CYPRESS MEADE PARK	I	N		N	7.8	5.0					Y	N	A, F
MD	HOWARD CITY	FREDRICK RD	I	N		N	4.0	4.0					N	N	
MD	HOWARD CITY	MCKELDIN AREA	I	Y	Y	Y	5.0		Y	Y	N	N	Y	Y	A
MD	HOWARD CITY	UPPER MCKELDIN AREA	I	N	Y	N		6.5	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	
MD	HOWARD CITY	W. FRIENDSHIP ELEM	I	Y		N	8.0	5.0					N	N	A, B
MD	HOWARD CITY	WAVERLY PARK	I	Y		Y	7.0	6.0					N	Y	A, F
MD	HOWARD COUN	CEDAR LANE PARK	I	Y	Y	N	7.0	6.5	N	N	Y	Y	Y		A, F
MD	HYATTSVILLE	HYTTSVLL CHLD&FAM CTR	I	Y		N	6.0	4.1					N	N	A
MD	HYATTSVILLE	MAGRUDER PARK	I	Y	Y	N	5.0	5.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
MD	LEXINGTON PA	CHANCELLORS RUN REG PK	I	Y	Y	N	6.7	6.7	N	N	Y	Y		Y	F
MD	LEXINGTON PA	GREENVIEW KNOLLS ELEM	I	Y	N	N	6.5	5.7	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
MD	LUSBY	APPEAL ELEMENTARY	I	N	Y	N	10.3	10.3	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	E, F
MD	LUSBY	CALVERT CLIFFS ST. PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.5	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	A, F
MD	LUSBY	COVE POINT PARK	Y	Y		N	6.3	6.3	N	N		Y	N	Y	
MD	LUSBY	MIDDLEHAM CHAPEL	H	Y	Y	N	4.0	4.0	N	N	N	N	N	Y	F
MD	LUSBY	PATUXENT ELEMENTARY	I	Y	N	N	7.3	7.3	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
MD	LUTHERVILLE	LUTHERVILLE ELEMENTARY	Y	N		Y	7.5	6.2					N	Y	
MD	LUTHERVILLE	SEMINARY PARK	Y	Y	N	N	4.8	9.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
MD	SOLOMONS	OUR LADY OF THE SEA	M	Y	Y	N	7.0	6.7	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	G
MD	TIMONIUM	PINEWOOD ELEMENTARY	I	N	N	Y	7.7	7.3	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
MD	TIMONIUM	TIMONIUM ELEMENTARY	Y	N		Y	10.0	5.0					Y	N	
MD	TOWSON	CROMWELL VALLEY	Y	Y		Y	7.5	7.5					N	N	
MD	TOWSON	HAMPTON ELEMENTARY	I	N		Y	10.0	5.5	N	N	N	N	Y	N	
MD	UNIVERSITY PA	UNIVERSITY PARK TOWNPK	I	Y	Y	N	9.1	6.0	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	
MI	ANN ARBOR	ALMANDINGER PARK	I	N	Y	Y	11.0	8.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
MI	ANN ARBOR	BACH GRADE SCHOOL	I	Y	Y	Y	7.2		N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	A, B
MI	ANN ARBOR	FRISINGER PARK	I	Y	N	Y	5.8		N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
MI	ANN ARBOR	GALLUP PARK	I	N		Y	7.6	8.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
MI	ANN ARBOR	HUNT PARK	I	Y	Y	N	10.3	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	

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CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

			SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
		Climbers & Slides		Swings	6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance		Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.		
ST	City	Playground				Climber			Slide	>24"				>30"	
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
MI	ANN ARBOR	ISLAND PARK	I	N	Y	Y	4.3	6.8	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
MI	ANN ARBOR	PLYMOUTH PARK	I	N	N	N	3.5	3.5	N	N	Y	Y		N	A, B
MI	ANN ARBOR	ROSE-WHITE PARK	H	N		Y	5.8	6.9					Y	Y	
MI	ANN ARBOR	WEST PARK	I	Y	Y	N	10.8	4.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	D
MI	DEABON	WALTER F. KIELB PARK	M	Y	Y	N	4.0		N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
MI	DEABON	WILLIAM FORD ELEMENTARY	I	Y	Y	N	6.5	7.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
MI	FARMINGTON H	MALLOY FIELD	M	N	Y	Y	6.5	7.3	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	
MI	GROSSE POINT	W.G. ELWORTH FIELD	I	Y	Y	Y	5.7	7.7	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	A, E
MI	GROSSE POINT	GROSSE POINTE ACACEMY	H	Y	Y	Y	9.7	7.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
MI	WAYNE	ATWOOD PARK	I	N	N	Y		5.5	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	
MI	WAYNE	GOUDY PARK	I	Y	Y	N	8.8	8.8	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
MI	WAYNE	KIWANIS	I	N	Y	Y	16.0	5.8	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
MI	WAYNE	LINCOLN SCHOOL	M	N		Y	7.5		N	N	N	Y	Y	N	
MT	BILLINGS	ALKALI CREEK ELEMENTARY	M	Y	N	Y	7.3	6.3	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	B, F
MT	BILLINGS	ARROWHEAD ELEMENTARY	M	N	N	Y	7.2	7.2	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	F
MT	BILLINGS	BEARTOOTH ELEMENTARY	M	N	Y		5.6	5.6	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	F
MT	BILLINGS	BOGART PARK	M	N	Y	Y	10.1	10.1	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	F
MT	BILLINGS	BURLINGTON ELEMENTARY	M	Y		Y	6.8	6.8					N	N	A, B, F
MT	BILLINGS	CASTLE ROCK PARK	M	Y	N	Y	10.1	10.1	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	F
MT	BILLINGS	EMILY DICKENSON ELEM	M	Y	N	Y	8.3	4.8	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	B, F
MT	BILLINGS	HAWTHORNE ELEM	M	N	Y	Y	11.5	4.7	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	F
MT	BILLINGS	MORNING STAR ELEM	M	Y	N	Y	6.1	6.1	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	B, F
MT	BILLINGS	NORTH PARK	M	Y	Y	Y	8.1	8.1	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	B, F
MT	BILLINGS	PIONEER PARK	M	N	Y	Y	9.7	9.7	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	F
MT	BILLINGS	ROSE PARK	M	N	N	Y	10.3	10.3	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	F
MT	BILLINGS	SOUTH PARK	M	N	N	Y	5.7	5.7	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	A, B, F
MT	BILLINGS	WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY	M	Y		Y	7.2	6.2					Y	Y	B, F
MT	BOZEMAN	KIRK PARK	M	N	N	Y	7.1	7.1	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	A, B, F
MT	BOZEMAN	SOUTHSIDE PARK	M	Y	Y	N	8.1	6.1	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	B, F
MT	BOZEMAN	WILSON ELEMENTARY	M	N	Y	Y	7.2	7.2	N	N	N	N	N	N	B, F
MT	BUTTE	BUTTE WEST ELEMENTARY	M	N	Y	Y	7.7	4.9	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	F

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			SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ. 6 FT OR LESS?		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
ST	City	Playground		Climbers & Slides	Swings		Climber	Slide	Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance >24"	>30"	Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
MT	BUTTE	EMERSON ELEMENTARY	M	N		Y	9.2	9.5					N	N	B, F
MT	BUTTE	HAWTHORNE ELEMENTARY	M	N	N	Y	8.6		N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	F
MT	BUTTE	HILLCREST ELEMENTARY	M	N	N	N	8.3	8.3	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	B, F
MT	BUTTE	KENNEDY ELEMENTARY	M	N	N	Y	9.7	8.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	F
MT	BUTTE	LEARY ELEMENTARY	M	N	N		13.6	1.8	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	F
MT	MISSOULA	C M RUSSELL ELEM	M	N	N		9.0	9.0	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	F
MT	MISSOULA	EMMA DICKENSON ELEM	H	N	N	Y	8.0	8.0	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	F
MT	MISSOULA	HELLGATE ELEMENTARY	M	N	N	Y	8.0	5.8	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A, F
MT	MISSOULA	KIWANAS PARK	M	N	N	Y	10.9	5.2	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	
MT	MISSOULA	MCCORMICK PARK	M	Y		Y	7.9	7.9					Y	N	F
MT	MISSOULA	PRESCOTT ELEMENTARY	M	N	N	Y	6.0		N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	F
MT	MISSOULA	SGT GREGORY PARK	M	Y	N	Y	5.2	5.2	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	F
NC	CARRBORO	AMITY UNITED METHODIST	I	Y	N	N	4.0	4.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
NC	CHAPEL HILL	ALDERSGATE U METHODIST	I	N	N	N	7.0	4.0	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	
NC	CHAPEL HILL	BINKLEY BAPTIST CHURCH	M	Y	Y	N	9.3	5.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	C
NC	CHAPEL HILL	CEDAR FALLS PARK PLAYGR	I	N		N	8.0	6.0	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	
NC	CHAPEL HILL	CHAPEL OF THE CROSS	I	Y	Y	N	4.8	3.5	N	N	N	N	Y	N	H
NC	CHAPEL HILL	COMMUNITY COURT PARK	I	Y	N	N	8.0	5.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	B, F
NC	CHAPEL HILL	EPHESUS ELEMENTARY	I	Y			8.5	3.0	N	N		Y	Y	Y	A, B
NC	CHAPEL HILL	ESTES HILLS ELEMENTARY	I	N	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	B, F
NC	CHAPEL HILL	FPG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	I	Y	Y	Y	9.0	6.8	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	A, F
NC	CHAPEL HILL	GLENWOOD ELEMENTARY	I	N	Y		7.5	2.8					Y	N	B, F, H
NC	CHAPEL HILL	UMSTEAD PARK PLAYGROUP	I	N	Y	N	5.0	5.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NC	CHAPEL HILL	UNIVERSITY METHODIST	I	N	N	N	5.7	3.5	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	F
NC	CHAPEL HILL	UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN	I	N		Y	7.6	4.8					Y	N	B, F
NC	COROLLA	MONTERARY SHORES	I	N	N	N	10.0	8.0	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	
NC	COROLLA	OCEAN HILL	M	Y	N	N	3.0		N	Y	N	N	N	Y	
NC	DURHAM	BELMONT PARK	H	N	N	Y	5.8	6.6	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	
NC	DURHAM	HOLT SCHOOL PARK	I	N	N	Y		6.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NC	DURHAM	OLD FARM PARK	I	Y	N	Y	8.7	7.2	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
NC	DURHAM	OVAL DRIVE PARK	I	N	N	Y	5.6	7.8	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	

FOR EXPLANATION OF RESULTS,
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CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance		Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
						Climber	Slide	>24"			>30"				
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
NC	DURHAM	TRINITY WATTS PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.7	3.0	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	
NC	DURHAM	WALLTOWN PARK	I	N	N	Y	4.0	7.7	N	N	N	N	Y	N	
NC	DURHAM	WESTOVER PARK	I	N	N	Y	5.0	5.8	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
NC	DURHAM	WHIPPORWILL PARK	H	N	N	Y	8.7	5.1	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
NC	HILLSBOROUGH	CAMERON CREEK ELEM	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	5.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	B, F
NC	HILLSBOROUGH	CENTRAL ELEMENTARY	I	Y		N	4.0	3.0					N	Y	B, F
NC	HILLSBOROUGH	HILLSBOROUGH ELEM	M	Y	Y	N	5.0	2.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	E
NC	PITTSBORO	PITTSBORO ELEMENTARY	I	Y	Y	N	6.5	8.5	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	
NJ	BLOOMFIELD	WATSESSING PARK	I	N	N	Y	5.5		N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	
NJ	CEDAR FALLS	CEDAR FALLS COMMUNITY	I	N	N	Y	5.5	5.5	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
NJ	MONTCLAIR	MOUNTAINSIDE PARK	I	Y		Y	8.0	5.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NJ	NEW BRUNSWIC	BUCCLEUCH PARK	I	Y	N	Y	9.2	2.8	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	E, F
NJ	NEW BRUNSWIC	CONSOVOY PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	9.7	2.5	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	B, F
NJ	NEW BRUNSWIC	FEASTER PARK	M	N	Y	N	6.0	5.0	Y	N	N	N	N	N	F
NJ	NEW BRUNSWIC	KILMER PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	5.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	F
NJ	NEW BRUNSWIC	PINE GROVE MANOR SCHL	I	N		Y	8.7	2.5					Y	Y	B, F
NJ	NEW BRUNSWIC	RECREATION PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	5.0	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	F
NJ	NEW BRUNSWIC	SACRED HEART SCHOOL	H	N		N	8.0						N	N	F
NJ	NEWARK	BRANCH BROOK PARK	I	N	N	Y	7.5	7.8	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
NJ	NUTLEY	MEMORIAL PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	5.3	5.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	E
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	BURTON PARK	I	N	Y	Y	4.8	5.9	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	CARLOS REY PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	7.3	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	CARLOS REY PARK ELEMEN	I	Y	Y	N	6.3	6.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	EDDIE GARCIA PARK	I	Y		Y	5.9	5.9					N	N	
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	GEORGIA O'KEEFE PARK	I	Y	N	N	2.9	2.9	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	KIRKLAND PARK	I	Y	Y	N	5.9	5.9	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	KIT CARSON PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	5.7	7.1	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	LONGFELLOW APS	I	Y	Y	N	5.1	5.1	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	LYNNEWOOD PARK	I	Y	N	N	11.0	6.2	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	B
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	MARTINEZ TOWN	I	N	N	Y	6.6	2.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	MORNINGSIDE PARK	I	N	Y	N	5.5	5.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	

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CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance		Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
							Climber	Slide			>24"	>30"			
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	RANCHOS DE PALOMAS	I	N	Y	N	4.9	6.1	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	A,B
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	REDLANDS PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	6.4	6.4	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	B
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	SANTA FE VILLAGE PARK	M	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	SUMMITT PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	4.8	7.8	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	B
NM	ALBUQUERQUE	USS BULLHEAD	I	N	Y	N	4.8	5.8	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	B
NM	SANTA FE	FRANKLIN MILES	I	Y		N	6.3	6.3					N	N	B
NM	SANTA FE	HERB MARTINEZ	I	N		N	5.9	5.9					Y	N	
NM	SANTA FE	MONICA LUCERO PARK	I	N	Y	N	5.0	5.8	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
NM	SANTA FE	SALVADOR PEREZ	I	N		N	4.3	5.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
NM	SANTA FE	SOUTHRIDGE PARK	I	N		N	6.1	6.1					N	N	
NY	ALBANY	CHILDREN'S PAVILION	I	N			11.7	2.7	N	N	N	N	Y	N	B
NY	ALBANY	CORNING PRESERVE	I	Y	N	N	12.1	3.0	N	N	Y	N	N	N	B
NY	ALBANY	GIFFEN ELEMENTARY	M	Y		Y	7.2	2.8	N	N	N	N	N	Y	
NY	ALBANY	LINCOLN PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	10.3	2.3	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	B
NY	ALBANY	LINCOLN PARK II	I	N	N	Y	6.8	12.5	N	Y	N	N	Y		B, D, E, F
NY	ALBANY	MADISON AVE PARK	Y	Y	Y	Y	7.3	7.3	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
NY	ALBANY	OAK ST. PARK	H	N	N	Y	7.2	2.6	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	
NY	ALBANY	PHILLIP SCHUYLER	M	N		N	6.2	3.2					Y	N	B
NY	ALBANY	PS 16	I	Y		N	6.0	3.5					Y	N	B, F
NY	ALBANY	PS 19	I	Y	N	Y	7.1	4.6	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	B, D, F
NY	ALBANY	PS 23	I	Y	N	N	7.5	6.2	N	N	Y	N	N	N	F
NY	ALBANY	PS 27	I	N	N	N	9.0	2.9	N	N	N	N	Y	N	
NY	ALBANY	RIDGEFIELD PARK I	I	N	Y	N	7.5	3.0	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	B
NY	ALBANY	RIDGEFIELD PARK II	M	Y	Y	Y	5.6	3.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	ALBANY	SUNSET PARK	M	Y	N	Y	3.2		N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	
NY	ALBANY	SUNSHINE SCHOOL	H	Y	Y	Y	6.0	2.1	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	
NY	ALBANY	SUNY ALBANY DAYCARE	I	Y		N	5.5	5.5					N	N	
NY	ALBANY	SWINEBURNE	I	N	Y	Y	8.3	5.8	N	Y	N	N	N	N	D
NY	ALBANY	WASHINGTON PARK	M	N	N	Y	10.8	2.0	N	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	A, B, D
NY	BINGHAMTON	AFRICAN ROAD SCHOOL	I	N	N		6.0	6.3	N	N	N	Y		N	B, F
NY	BINGHAMTON	CALVIN COOLIDGE SCHOOL	H	N	N	N	8.0		N	Y	N	N	N	N	

FOR EXPLANATION OF RESULTS,
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CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ. 6 FT OR LESS?		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		Climber	Slide	Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance		Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
											>24"	>30"			
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
NY	BINGHAMTON	FRANKLIN SCHOOL PLAYGR(I		Y	N	Y	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
NY	BINGHAMTON	MACARTHUR SCHOOL	M	N	N	Y	6.0	6.0	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	E
NY	BINGHAMTON	OSTININGO PARK	Y	Y	N	N	12.5	8.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
NY	BINGHAMTON	RECREATION "BEETHOVEN" I	M	N	N		10.0	9.0	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	B,E
NY	BINGHAMTON	ROOSEVELT	I	Y	Y		6.0	6.0	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	
NY	BINGHAMTON	THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOC	I	N	N	N	10.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	A,F
NY	BINGHAMTON	VESTAL HILLS ELEMENTARY	I	N	Y	N	7.3	7.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	BINGHAMTON	VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK	I	N	N	Y	8.0	8.0	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	B
NY	NORTH BETHLE	NORTH BETHLEHEM PARK	I	Y		N	5.1	1.9	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	B
NY	OSWEGO	FITZHUGH	H	N	N	N	7.5	4.2	N	N	Y	Y	Y		
NY	OSWEGO	FORT ONTARIO	I	Y		N		2.0					Y		B
NY	OSWEGO	GAMMA PARK	I	N			7.3	7.3	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	
NY	OSWEGO	IMAGINATION STATION	I	Y	Y	N	8.3	7.3	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	
NY	OSWEGO	KINGSWOOD PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	7.9	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	B,E
NY	OSWEGO	LEIGHTON ELEMENTARY	I	Y	N	N	8.0	8.0	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	
NY	OSWEGO	OSWEGO STATE DAYCARE	H		N	N	3.0		N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
NY	OSWEGO	ST. MARYS	I	Y	Y	N	3.0	3.0	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
NY	OSWEGO	WASHINGTON SQUARE	I	N	Y		7.8	7.8	Y		N	Y	Y		
NY	PITTSFORD (RO	MENDON CENTER ELEMENT/I		N		Y	10.0	8.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	B,F
NY	PITTSFORD (RO	PARK RD ELEMENTARY	I	N	N	N	9.5	6.5	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	F
NY	PITTSFORD (RO	THORNELL FARM PARK	I	N	N	N	9.3	6.0	N	N	N		Y	N	F
NY	PITTSFORD (RO	THORNELL RD SCHOOL	I	N	N	N	7.3	5.5	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	F
NY	SCHENECTADY	CENTRAL PARK	M	Y	Y	Y	6.5	6.1	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	D,F
NY	SCHENECTADY	CENTRAL PARK-TINY TOT LA	I	Y	N	Y	7.3	6.0	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	A,B,D,E
NY	SCHENECTADY	ROTUNDA PARK	H	Y	Y	Y	8.7		Y	Y	N	N	N	N	C,E
NY	SCOTIA	COLLINS PK-KIWANIS KIDDIE	I	Y	N	Y	7.3	3.2	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	
NY	TROY	112TH ST PLAYGROUND	H	Y	Y	Y	3.5		N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	
NY	TROY	FREAR PARK	H	Y	Y	Y	5.9	2.8	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	E
NY	TROY	KNICKERBOCKER REC FACIL	I	Y		N	6.0	3.0					Y	Y	B
NY	TROY	PROSPECT PARK	H	Y	Y	Y	11.3	2.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
NY	TROY/LANSING	RENSSELEAR ELEMENTARY	I	Y	Y	Y	12.0	3.0	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	B,C

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PIRG/CFA 1998 PLAYING IT SAFE NATIONAL PLAYGROUND SURVEY: Playground Results By State

CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

			SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
ST	City	Playground		Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance >24"	>30"	Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
NY	BRONX	FORT INDEPENDENCE PK	Y	N		N	8.0	6.0					N	N	
NY	BRONX	PARK	Y	N		N	6.0						N	N	
NY	BRONX	ST. JAMES PARK	Y	N		N	8.0	7.0					N	N	
NY	BROOKLYN	11TH ST. PLAYGROUND	Y	N	N	Y	7.5	5.0	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	
NY	BROOKLYN	3RD ST. PLAYGROUND	Y	Y		N	5.8	5.8					N	Y	B, F
NY	BROOKLYN	J.J. BYRNE PARK	Y	Y	N	N	6.5	6.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	B, F
NY	BROOKLYN	PARK SLOPE PLAYGROUND	Y	Y		N	6.5	6.5					N	Y	B, F
NY	BROOKLYN	PS 321	Y	Y		N	6.0	6.0					N	N	
NY	MANHATTAN	BATTERY PARK	Y	N	N	Y	5.0	4.8	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	
NY	MANHATTAN	BATTERY PARK CITY PLYGR	I	N		N	4.0	4.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	MANHATTAN	CARL SCHURZ PARK	I	N	Y	N	6.0	8.0	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	A, B, F
NY	MANHATTAN	COLUMBUS PARK	M	N		Y	12.1	10.0	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	B, F
NY	MANHATTAN	JOHN JAY PARK	Y	N	Y	Y	5.5	5.5	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	A, B, D
NY	MANHATTAN	MAE GRANT PARK	Y	Y		Y	6.0	6.0			Y	Y	N	N	
NY	MANHATTAN	PARK	Y	Y		N	5.8	6.3					N	N	B
NY	MANHATTAN	ROBERT BENDHEIM PARK	Y	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	MANHATTAN	UNION SQUARE PARK	I	Y		Y	5.0	5.3					N	Y	
NY	MANHATTAN	WASHINGTON MARKET PK	I	N		Y	5.2	6.3					N	N	B
NY	MANHATTAN	WASHINGTON SQUARE PK	I	Y		N	5.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	MANHATTAN	WHITE PLAYGROUND	Y	N	N	N	6.0	6.0	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	MANHATTAN-CH	ANCIENT PLAYGROUND	I	Y		N	5.0	5.0	Y				N	N	B, G, H
NY	MANHATTAN-CH	EAST 96TH ST PLAYGRND	Y	Y	Y	Y	5.0	5.0	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	C, F
NY	QUEENS	ASTORIA PARK	I	Y	Y	N	8.0	8.0					N	N	
NY	QUEENS	BROOKVILLE PARK	Y	N	N	N	8.0		N		Y		N	N	
NY	QUEENS	CAPTAIN MARK FUARDO	M	Y	Y	Y	10.0	8.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	QUEENS	ELECTCHESTER PARK	M	N	Y	N	10.0	10.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	QUEENS	FOREST PARK	M	N	Y	N	8.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	QUEENS	HOOVER PLAYGROUND	I	Y	Y	N	8.0	8.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	QUEENS	HOWARD VON DOHLEN PK	M	Y	N	Y	6.5	6.5	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
NY	QUEENS	HOYT PLAYGROUND	I	Y	Y	N	8.0	7.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	QUEENS	KISSENA PARK #1	M	N	Y	N	10.0	10.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	

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ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ. 6 FT OR LESS?		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		Climber	Slide	Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance >24"	>30"	Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
NY	QUEENS	KISSENA PARK #2	M	N	Y	N	8.0	8.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	QUEENS	MARIE CURIE PARK	Y	N		N	9.0	7.4	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	QUEENS	POMONOK PLAYGROUND	M	N	Y	Y	7.0	7.0		N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	QUEENS	TRIBORO BRIDGE PLAYGRD	I	Y	Y	Y	8.0	8.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	B
NY	QUEENS	VLEIGH PLAYGROUND #1	M	Y	Y	Y	8.0	8.0	N	N	Y	Y	N		F
NY	QUEENS	VLEIGH PLAYGROUND #2	Y	N		N	4.8	8.1	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	STATEN ISLAND	ARROCHAR PLAYGROUND	Y	Y	N	N	4.0	3.5	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	
NY	STATEN ISLAND	CLOVE LAKES PARK	M	N	N	N	3.8	3.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	B,F
NY	STATEN ISLAND	DONGAN PLAYGROUND	Y	Y		Y	6.5	6.5	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	STATEN ISLAND	DUGAN PLAYGROUND	Y	Y	Y	N	6.0	3.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	B
NY	STATEN ISLAND	GREAT KILLS PLAYGROUND	Y	Y	Y	N	6.3	3.0					N	Y	B,F
NY	STATEN ISLAND	MARKHAM PLAYGROUND	M	Y	N	N	6.9	3.1	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	B
NY	STATEN ISLAND	MIDLAND BEACH	Y	Y	N	Y	6.0	5.0	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	STATEN ISLAND	MIDLAND PLAYGROUND	H	Y	Y	Y	6.4	3.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	B
NY	STATEN ISLAND	MIDLAND PLAYGROUND	Y	N	N	Y	6.9	6.9	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	STATEN ISLAND	SOUTH BEACH PLAYGROUND	Y	N		Y	9.0	7.5					N	N	
NY	LI-HICKSVILLE	TRIANGLE PARK	M	Y	Y	N	4.0	4.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	C,F
NY	LI-HUNTINGTON	HECKSHEE PARK	M	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	B,C,F
NY	LI-HUNTINGTON	JEFFERSON ELEMENTARY	M	Y	Y	N	6.3	7.3	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	C
NY	LI-PORT JEFFER	CLIFTON LEE (ROCKETSHIP)	M	Y	Y	Y	15.5	9.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	LI-SETAUKET	ARROWHEAD ELEMENTARY	M	Y		N	5.0	3.0	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	F
NY	LI-SETAUKET	NASSAKEAG ELEMENTARY	M	Y	Y	N	5.0	5.0	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	F
NY	LI-SETAUKET	SETAUKET ELEMENTARY	M	N	Y	N	8.5	4.8	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N	B,F
NY	LI-ST JAMES	ST JAMES ELEMENTARY	M	Y	Y	Y	6.0	6.0	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	B,F
NY	LI-STONYBROO	CO-ED PARK	M	Y	Y	N	4.0	4.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	LI-STONYBROO	OXHEAD PARK	M	Y	Y	N	4.5	3.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
NY	LI-STONYBROO	WM S MOUNT ELEMENTARY	M	N	Y	Y	6.0	4.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	B,F
NY	LI-SYOSSET	COLD SPRINGS PARK	M	Y	Y	Y	4.0	3.0	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	C
NY	LI-SYOSSET	HILLSIDE PARK S-5	M	Y	Y	N	5.0	5.3	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	C,F
NY	LI-SYOSSET	IRA ROAD PARK S-3	M	Y	Y		4.0	4.0					N	N	F
NY	LI-SYOSSET	LEWIS PARK S-4	M	Y	Y	N	5.0	6.0	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	

FOR EXPLANATION OF RESULTS,
SEE KEY BEFORE SUMMARY PAGES

CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance		Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
							Climber	Slide			>24"	>30"			
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
NY	LI-SYOSSET	OREGON PARK S-2	M	Y	Y	N	4.0	3.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	C,E,F,G
NY	LI-SYOSSET	TACOMA PARK	H	Y	Y	N	5.0	5.3	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	C,F
NY	LI-WOODBURY	SYOSETT-WOODBURY COM M		Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A,B,F
OH	BEACHWOOD	MERSER ELEMENTARY	I	Y		Y	6.3	6.3					Y	N	
OH	CLEVELAND HGH	NOBLE SCHOOL PLAYGROU I		N	N	N	4.9	5.3	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	
OH	CLEVELAND HGH	ROXBORO ELEMENTARY	I	N	Y	Y	8.3	7.2	N	N	N	N	Y	N	
OH	EUCLID	T JEFFERSON MAGNET SCH I		N		Y	6.8	4.5					Y	N	B
OH	LEVELAND HGH	COVENTRY PEACE PLAYGR C I		N	N	Y	7.3	7.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A,G
OH	LEVELAND HGH	FAIRFAX SCHOOL	I	N	N	Y	7.3	6.9	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	
OH	LEVELAND HGH	OVERLOOK PLAYGROUND	Y	N	N	Y	4.5	4.1	N	N	N	N	Y	N	
OH	LYNDHURST	RIDGEBURY ELEMENTARY	M	N	Y	Y	6.3	5.8	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	
OH	LYNDHURST	TODAYS YMCA	I	N	N	N	5.3	3.8	Y	N	Y	N	N		F,G
OH	RICHMOND HGH	RICHMOND HGHTS ELEMENT I		Y		N	12.1	12.1	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	
OH	WARRENSVILLE	JOHN DEWEY ELEMENTARY	M	Y	Y	Y	8.1	6.0	N	N	N	N	N	N	
OH	WARRENSVILLE	WARRENSVILLE HGHTS MUN I		N	N	N	9.5	6.3	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	C
OH	WESTLAKE	BASSET ELEMENTARY	I	Y	N	Y	7.5	7.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
OH	WESTLAKE	DOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOC I		Y	Y	Y	9.6	6.3	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	
OH	WESTLAKE	HOLLY LANE ELEMENTARY	I	Y	N	Y	6.3	4.8	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	
OR	PORTLAND	ABERNETHY SCHOOL	I	Y	N	N	7.0	6.6	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
OR	PORTLAND	BLOOMINGTON PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	9.5	3.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
OR	PORTLAND	BRENTWOOD PARK	I	Y	N	Y	8.5	2.8	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	B
OR	PORTLAND	BROOKLYN PARK	M	Y	N	Y	9.9	2.7	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	F
OR	PORTLAND	BROOKLYN SCHOOL PARK	M	N		N	15.7	2.0					Y	Y	B,F
OR	PORTLAND	COMMUNITY CENTER PARK	I	Y	N	N	8.3	3.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
OR	PORTLAND	CRESTON PARK	M	N	N	Y	14.0	2.9	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	
OR	PORTLAND	ED BENEDICT PARK	I	Y	Y	N	10.3	2.9	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
OR	PORTLAND	GRANT PARK	I	Y	N	Y	8.5	5.5	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
OR	PORTLAND	HARRISON PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	9.2	2.8	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
OR	PORTLAND	JOHNSON CREEK PARK	M	Y	Y	Y	10.5		N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
OR	PORTLAND	KENILWORTH PARK	I	Y	N	N	13.3	2.5	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	B
OR	PORTLAND	KERN PARK	I	Y	Y	N	7.2	8.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	

FOR EXPLANATION OF RESULTS,
SEE KEY BEFORE SUMMARY PAGES

PIRG/CFA 1998 PLAYING IT SAFE NATIONAL PLAYGROUND SURVEY: Playground Results By State

CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ. 6 FT OR LESS?		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		Climber	Slide	Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance >24" >30"	Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.	
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
OR	PORTLAND	LAURELHURST	I	Y		N	9.7	4.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	F
OR	PORTLAND	LENTS BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB	I	Y	N	N	9.3	2.2	N	N	N	N	N	N	
OR	PORTLAND	LENTS PARK	I	N	Y	N	11.5	3.3	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
OR	PORTLAND	MT SCOTT PARK	I	Y	N	Y	10.0	10.0	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N	
OR	PORTLAND	MT TABOR	M	N	Y	Y	7.0	10.0	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	
OR	PORTLAND	POWELL PARK	I	Y	N	Y	7.0	2.9	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
OR	PORTLAND	RICHMOND MIDDLE SCHOOL	I	N	N	N	8.0	6.5	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	B,C,F,H
OR	PORTLAND	VENTURA PARK	I	Y	Y	Y	9.3	3.0	N	N	N	Y	N	N	
OR	PORTLAND	VENTURA SCHOOL	I			Y	6.8		N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
OR	PORTLAND	WILSHIRE PARK	I	Y	N	Y	8.0	10.0	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	
OR	PORTLAND	WOODSTOCK PARK	I	Y	N	Y	6.3		N	N	Y	Y	N	N	F,H
OR	PORTLAND	WOODSTOCK SCHOOL	I	Y		Y	8.5	3.0					N	N	B,F
PA	CAMBRIDGE SPRINGFIELD	CAMBRIDGE SPRINGS ELEMENTARY	M	Y	N	Y	6.0	6.5	N	Y	N	N	N	N	F
PA	EDINBORO	EDINBORO PARK #1	M		Y	N			N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
PA	EDINBORO	EDINBORO PARK #2	H	Y	Y	N	4.0	4.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
PA	EDINBORO	GENERAL MCLANE	H	Y	Y	N		10.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
PA	EDINBORO	WASHINGTON TWP BICENTENNIAL FIELD		Y	Y	Y	5.0		N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
PA	ERIE	BAYVIEW PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	N	N	N	N	
PA	ERIE	BURTON SCHOOL	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	7.0	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	
PA	ERIE	DIEHL SCHOOL	I	Y	Y	N	6.5	6.5	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	
PA	ERIE	GLENWOOD SCHOOL	M	Y	N	N	6.0	5.0	N	N	N	N	N	N	
PA	ERIE	GROVERCLEVELAND SCHOOL	I	Y	Y	Y	6.0	7.0	N	N	N	N	N	Y	
PA	ERIE	HARDING SCHOOL	H	Y	N	N	6.0	6.0	N	Y	N	N	N	N	
PA	ERIE	HOLLAND ST	I	Y	Y	N	7.0	10.0	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	B
PA	ERIE	JEFFERSON SCHOOL	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	5.5	N	N	N	N	N	N	
PA	ERIE	LINCOLN SCHOOL	I	N		N	6.5	4.0					N	N	B
PA	ERIE	MCKINLEY PARK	I	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	Y	N		N	N	
PA	ERIE	PERRY SCHOOL	I	Y	N	N	6.0	7.0	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	
PA	MCKEAN	MCKEAN COMM. PARK	I	Y		N	8.0	6.0					N	N	
PA	MILLCREEK TWP	GLENWOOD PARK AVE	I	Y	Y	Y	8.0	6.0	Y	N	N	N	N	N	80
PA	MILLCREEK TWP	SCOTT PARK	H	Y		N	6.0	4.0	Y	N			Y	N	D

FOR EXPLANATION OF RESULTS,
SEE KEY BEFORE SUMMARY PAGES

CFA PARENT CHECKLIST

How Safe is Your Local Playground?

Too many children suffer injuries on public playground equipment. It is estimated that nearly 150,000 children are treated in hospital emergency departments annually for injuries sustained while playing on public playground equipment. And sometimes these injuries are fatal; at least 15 children die each year because of playground-related incidents.

Extensive research has been conducted to identify the playground hazards which cause injuries and death. The following checklist can be used to evaluate the general safety of your local playground. Check the playgrounds where your children play -- including the equipment at your local schools, parks, community centers, churches, and child care centers -- to see whether they present dangerous hazards.

1. Is there a lack of protective surfacing under or around play equipment?

Protective surfacing is the most critical safety factor on playgrounds because approximately 75% of all injuries are caused by falls.

Hard, paved surfaces such as concrete and asphalt as well as earth surfaces such as grass, soil, and hard packed dirt are not acceptable for use under and around play equipment. None of these surfaces provides adequate protection against fall-related injuries. Falls onto concrete or asphalt from as low as 2 inches can cause life-threatening head impact injuries.

Acceptable protective surfacing materials include:

- Loose-fill surfacing materials -- such as wood chips, shredded bark mulch, sand, and pea gravel -- when installed and maintained at depths of at least 9 to 12 inches and provided that they are not wet or compacted.
- Unitary synthetic surfacing materials -- including some premolded rubber tiles and pour-in-place systems.

2. Are pieces of play equipment too close together? Is there a lack of protective surfacing where children might fall?

A fall zone is the area under and around a piece of play equipment where a child might fall. The fall zone should have protective surfacing and be free of other equipment or obstacles onto which a child might fall.

- If two pieces of adjacent stationary play equipment are no more than 30 inches in height, their fall zones may overlap with a minimum distance between structures of 6 feet. If adjacent equipment is higher than 30 inches, the minimum distance between structures should be 9 feet.
- For climbing equipment, merry-go-rounds, seesaws, and spring rockers, the fall zone should extend a minimum of 6 feet in all directions from the perimeter of the equipment.
- For slides, the fall zone behind the access ladder and to the sides of a slide should extend a minimum of 6 feet from the perimeter of the equipment. The fall zone in front of the exit of a slide should extend a minimum distance of 6 feet from the end of the slide chute or for a distance of $H+4$ feet, whichever is greater. H is the height of the slide platform.
- For swings with conventional seats, the fall zone should extend a minimum of 6 feet from the perimeter of the support structure on each side as well as a minimum distance of twice the height of the pivot point in front of and behind the swing seats. The fall zone on the sides of a swing structure may overlap with that of an adjacent swing structure. But the fall zone in front of and behind the swings may not overlap with any other fall zone.

3. Is there any equipment too high above ground?

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The highest climbing rung or platform on climbing equipment or the height of the top of a slide, for example, should not exceed:

- 4 feet above the protective surfacing when designed for preschool-age children.
- 6 feet above the protective surfacing when designed for school-age children.

4. Do elevated play surfaces -- such as platforms, bridges, walkways, and ramps -- lack adequate guardrails or protective barriers to prevent falls? Can children inadvertently fall off high elevated surfaces?

5. Are swings too heavy, too close together, or too close to support structures?

- Swing seats should not be made of wood, metal, or any other heavy, rigid materials. Heavy, hard hitting swings -- including animal swings, multiple occupancy swings such as gliders (but not tire swings), swinging exercise rings, and trapeze bars -- may cause life-threatening head impact injuries.
- No swing structures should be attached to other play equipment or composite structures.
- No more than two swing seats should be suspended in the same section of the support structure.
- Infant/tot seats should not be suspended in the same of a swing structure as regular swing seats.
- Swings with conventional seats or tot seats should have horizontal clearances of at least 24 inches between adjacent seats and 30 inches between the swing seat and an adjacent structural component.

6. Does the play equipment have any head entrapment hazards?

Any opening -- except those where the ground is the lower boundary -- with an interior dimension between 3.5 and 9 inches may cause head entrapment, and such incidents can result in strangulation. Entrapment may occur when a child enters an opening, either head first or feet first, but cannot withdraw his or her head because the opening is too small.

7. Does the play equipment have any entanglement hazards on which children may catch clothing or anything else around their neck?

Entanglement incidents can result in strangulation.

- Look for open "S" hooks, especially on swings.
- Look for gaps, openings, holes, protrusions, or equipment components which may act as hooks or catch points, especially at the top of slides.

8. Does the play equipment have any sharp points, corners, or edges?

9. Does the play equipment have any hardware or components which are dangerous protrusions or projections?

10. Does the play equipment have any exposed moving parts or other junctures which create dangerous pinch, crush, or shearing points?

11. Does the play equipment or area have any exposed concrete footings or environmental obstacles, such as rocks or roots, which create trip hazards and may cause impact injuries?

12. Does the play equipment show any signs of deterioration or corrosion?
Does the play area lack maintenance or appear to have been vandalized?

- Look for loose splinters, large splits, and decay on wood components, rust or paint that is peeling, chipping, or cracking on metal components, and splitting or cracking on plastic components.
- Look for missing or damaged equipment components, checking items such as handholds, guardrails, swing seats, and benches.
- Special attention is warranted for deterioration and corrosion on structural components where they contact the ground; look for any emerging anchoring problems that may cause instability.

If the answer to any of the questions above is yes, contact the owner or operator of the playground -- such as the school principal, the local Parks and Recreation Department, or the child care provider. Let them know that you found hazards and that their play equipment and playground are not safe. Share the results of this survey and demand that corrective action be taken immediately so that children do not get hurt. Hazardous equipment should be upgraded or removed. Most importantly, ensure that adequate protective surfacing gets installed and maintained.

A more detailed evaluation of the playground's safety can be completed using Consumer Federation of America's 1998 *Report and Model Law on Public Play Areas and Equipment*. For a copy of this report, send a check or money order for \$40 to Consumer Federation of America, 1424 16th Street, NW, Suite 604, Washington, DC 20036.

CFA/PIRG Playground Safety Survey -- Spring 1998

Playground Name: _____ Location (cross streets): _____

City/State: _____ Date Surveyed: _____

Surveyor/Organization/Phone Number: _____

NOTE: Please make as many copies of this survey as you have playgrounds to check; complete a separate survey for each playground. You will need a measuring tape and yardstick/ruler to complete this survey. As necessary, please continue your comments on the reverse side or attach a separate sheet.

1. PROTECTIVE SURFACING

It is extremely important to note what the surface is under and around play equipment. If the surfacing type varies (i.e., there is more than one surface on the playground), please note what type of surface is under each piece of play equipment. For example, you may find concrete under a climber but hardwood chips under the swings.

- a. What type of surfacing is under and around the play equipment? Please circle.

Concrete Asphalt Grass Soil

Loose-fill materials: Hardwood Chips Shredded Mulch Sand Pea Gravel Shredded Tires

Rubber Tiles or Unitary Synthetic Surface

Other: _____

- b. If the surfacing is a loose material, such as hardwood chips, shredded mulch, sand, pea gravel, or shredded tires, use your yardstick or ruler to measure how deep it is, making several measurements in different spots.

Depth: _____ inches Does this depth appear consistent throughout the play area? YES NO

Comments: _____

2. FALL (USE) ZONES

The fall or use zone is the area under and around a piece of play equipment where a child might fall. The fall zone should (1) have protective surfacing and (2) be free of other equipment or obstacles onto which a child might fall. Protective surfacing is covered above; the questions below address whether the area around the equipment that is free of obstacles and other equipment provides a large enough fall zone. If the fall zone is large enough (as described below) but does not have adequate protective surfacing (i.e., hardwood chips are only 3-inch deep), please note that problem above and/or below.

- a. *Fall Zone for climbing equipment and slides:* does the fall zone extend a minimum of 6 feet in all directions from the perimeter of the equipment? YES NO

AND, if the height of adjacent pieces of equipment (such as an independent climber and an independent slide) exceeds 30 inches, is the minimum distance between the two separate pieces at least 9 feet. YES NO

- b. *Fall Zone for swings with conventional, strap-type seats (not tot seats):* Does the fall zone extend a minimum of 6 feet from the perimeter of the support structure on each side as well as a minimum distance of twice the height of the pivot point in front of and behind the swing seats? The fall zone on the sides of a swing structure may overlap with that of an adjacent swing structure. YES NO

Comments: _____

3. PAINTED EQUIPMENT

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Is there any peeling, chipping or cracking paint on any equipment surface?

YES NO

4. EQUIPMENT HEIGHT

Limiting the height of play equipment is an essential means of preventing severe fall-related injuries.

- a. *Climbing equipment:* what is the height of the highest climbing member, such as a rung or platform? _____
- b. *Slides:* what is the height of the slide entrance, where the child enters the slide chute? _____
- c. *Swings:* is the height of the pivot point/swing beam higher than 8 feet? YES NO

5. SWINGS

- a. Are any swing seats constructed of heavy, rigid materials such as wood or metal? YES NO
- b. Are any swing structures attached to other play equipment, such as a slide or climber? YES NO
- c. Are there more than two swing seats in any one section of the swing structure? YES NO
- d. Are infant/tot seats suspended in the same section of the swing structure as regular seats? YES NO
- e. Is the horizontal distance between adjacent swings at least 24 inches? YES NO
- f. Is the horizontal distance between the swing and any adjacent support structure at least 30 inches? YES NO

6. HEAD ENTRAPMENT HAZARDS

Any opening -- except those where the ground is the lower boundary -- with an interior dimension between 3.5 and 9 inches may cause head entrapment, and such incidents can result in strangulation. Entrapment may occur when a child enters an opening, either head first or feet first, but cannot withdraw his or her head because the opening is too small. For example, on a piece of climbing equipment, the space between two climbing rungs on a ladder or the space between the lower edge of a protective barrier and the platform may present head entrapment hazards if the opening is in the hazardous-range between 3.5 and 9 inches. Head entrapment criteria apply to all types of openings on all types of equipment, except where the ground is the lower boundary of the opening.

Does the play equipment have any openings with an interior dimension between 3.5 and 9 inches which may cause head entrapment? If yes, please describe below. YES NO

Comments: _____

7. CLOTHING ENTANGLEMENT HAZARDS

Entanglement incidents can result in strangulation. Look for open "S" hooks, especially on swings. Look for gaps, protrusions, or equipment components which may act as hooks or catch points, especially at the top of slides.

Does the play equipment have any entanglement hazards on which children may catch clothing or anything else around their neck? YES NO

Comments: _____

8. DANGEROUS EQUIPMENT -- Does the playground have any of the following equipment?

- | | | | | | |
|--|-----|----|---|-----|----|
| a. Track Rides | YES | NO | e. Animal Swings | YES | NO |
| b. Chain or Cable Walks | YES | NO | f. Swinging Exercise Rings/Trapeze Bars | YES | NO |
| c. Rotating/Swinging Gates | YES | NO | g. Rope Swings | YES | NO |
| d. Multiple Occupancy Swings/Gliders
(Tire Swings are exempt) | YES | NO | h. Individual Climbing Ropes | YES | NO |

CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance >24"	>30"	Head En- trap?	Other Cloth Tangle?	Hazard Equip.
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
VA	RADFORD	HILLCREST TOT LOT	H	N		N	13.0						Y	Y	F
VA	RADFORD	McHARG ELEM SCHOOL	M	N		Y	7.0	5.0					N	Y	F
VA	RADFORD	RIVERLAWN	I	Y	Y	Y	6.0	6.0	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	
VA	RADFORD	TYLER ST PARK	I	N		Y	9.0	5.0					N	N	
VA	RICHMOND	ROBINS ELEMENTARY	I	Y	N	N	10.0	6.0					Y	Y	F,H
VA	RICHMOND	ST EDWARDS	I	Y		N	12.0	7.0					Y	N	F
VA	ROANOKE	FALLON PARK	I	N	N	Y	18.0	16.0	N	N	N	N	N	Y	A
VA	ROANOKE	NORWICH PARK AND RECRE I		N	N	N	10.0	8.5	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
VA	ROANOKE	ROANOKE CATHOLIC SCHOC I		Y	Y	N	4.0	4.5	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	
VA	ROCKY MOUNT	LM WAID SCHOOL PLAYGROI I		N	Y	N	3.0		Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	
VA	ROCKY MOUNT	MARY ELIZABETH PARK	H	N	N	N	8.0	4.0	N	Y	N	Y	Y	N	F
VA	ROCKY MOUNT	STEP INC PLAYGROUND	M	Y		Y	6.0	4.5					N	N	B,D,F
VA	S BOSTON	PLAYGROUND	I	N	N	N	8.0	4.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	H
VA	SPRINGFIELD	HIDDEN POND	I	Y		N	9.0	6.0					N	N	B,F,H
VA	SPRINGFIELD	LEE HIGH PARK	Y	Y	Y	Y	8.5	5.3	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	E,F
VA	SPRINGFIELD	MARTHA T HART	I	Y		Y	6.0	6.0					N	Y	B

CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance		Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
							Climber	Slide			>24"	>30"			
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
PA	MILLCREEK TW	ZUCK PARK	H	Y	Y	Y	7.0	9.0	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	N	D
PA	PHILA	9TH, FEDERAL	Y	Y	Y	Y	4.0		N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
PA	PHILA	BLUE PARK	Y	Y	Y	N	7.5	5.2	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
PA	PHILA	FOX CHASE PLAYGROUND	Y	N	N	Y	7.8	5.3	N	Y	N	N	N	N	
PA	PHILA	MASTER & HANCOCK	Y	Y	N	N	9.5	6.0	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	
PA	PHILA	REC CENTER SOUTH PHILLY	Y	Y	Y	N	6.0	4.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
PA	PHILA	SEGER PLAYGROUND	Y	N	N	Y	6.4	5.2	N	Y	Y		N	N	
PA	PHILA	TOT LOT	Y		Y	Y	4.5	5.0					N	N	
TN	NASHVILLE	CENTENNIAL PARK	M	N	Y	Y	6.4	6.4	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	D
TN	NASHVILLE	CHILDCARE USA	I	N	N	Y	3.8	3.4	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	
TN	NASHVILLE	DAVID LIPSCOMB ELEM	I	Y	N	Y	12.0	12.0	N	Y	N	N	N	N	
TN	NASHVILLE	ELMINGTON PARK	Y	Y	N	Y	7.2	7.2	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	
TN	NASHVILLE	FANNIE MAE DEES PARK	I	N	N	Y	10.0	5.6	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	D, F
TN	NASHVILLE	GLENCLIFF ELEMENTARY	I	Y	Y	N	7.0	6.0	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	
TN	NASHVILLE	GLENGARRY ELEMENTARY	I	Y	N	Y	10.0	9.7	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	
TN	NASHVILLE	GLENVIEW ELEM	I	Y	N	Y	12.0	7.3	N	Y	Y	N	N	Y	
TN	NASHVILLE	GREEN HILLS PARK	I	Y	Y	N	5.5	6.8	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
TN	NASHVILLE	HICKMAN ELEMENTARY	I	Y	N	Y	8.0		N	Y	N	N	N	N	
TN	NASHVILLE	HOLY ROSARY ACADEMY	I	Y	Y	N	7.0	3.5	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	
TN	NASHVILLE	LAKEWOOD BAPTIST CHRCH	M	N	N	N	4.4	5.8	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	E
TN	NASHVILLE	MCGAVOCK ELEMENTARY	M	N	Y	Y	10.0	12.0	N	N	Y	N	N	N	
TN	NASHVILLE	NORTON BRINKLEY ELEM	M	Y		Y	10.0	6.5					Y	Y	
TN	NASHVILLE	PERCY WARNER PARK	I	Y	N	Y	6.5		N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
TN	NASHVILLE	SEVEN OAKS PARK	H	N	N	Y	5.5	5.5	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	
VA	ARLINGTON	4 MILE RUN/BON AIR PARK	Y	Y	Y	N	5.7	5.7	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
VA	ARLINGTON	4 MILE RUN/NEAR BLUEMON	Y	N	N	N	6.5	6.5	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
VA	ARLINGTON/FALLS	CROSSMAN/4 MILE RUN/NEW	Y	Y	Y	N	5.0	5.0	N	N	N	N	N	N	
VA	ARLINGTON/FALLS	CROSSMAN/4 MILE RUN/OLD	M	Y	Y	N		5.9	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	
VA	BLACKSBURG	DAY SPRING CHRISTIAN ACHA	H	Y	Y	N	5.7	5.7	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	
VA	BLACKSBURG	GILBERT LINKOUS ELEMENT	I	Y	Y	N	5.5	5.5	Y	N	Y	N	N	Y	F
VA	BLACKSBURG	HAND IN HAND	I	N		N	6.3	5.0	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	F

FOR EXPLANATION OF RESULTS,
SEE KEY BEFORE SUMMARY PAGES

CFA/USPIRG 1998: ALL PLAYGROUNDS SORTED BY STATE

ST	City	Playground	SURFACE Unsafe or Safe?	FALL ZONES ADEQUATE?		Any Chipped Paint?	IS HEIGHT OF HIGHEST EQ.		SWING HAZARDS				OTHER HAZARDS		
				Climbers & Slides	Swings		6 FT OR LESS?		Hard Seat?	Too Many Swings?	Swing Clearance >24"	>30"	Head En- trap?	Cloth Tangle?	Other Hazard Equip.
SAFE PLAYGROUND CODE (See Key)			Y	Y	Y	N	<=6 FT	<=6 FT	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	BLANK
VA	BLACKSBURG	KIPPS ELEMENTARY	I	Y	Y	N	7.2	7.2	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
VA	BLACKSBURG	LARK LANE	Y	N	Y	N	5.6	9.0	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	A,C,D
VA	BLACKSBURG	MUNICIPAL PARK	I	N	N	N	15.0	12.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	B,D,F,H
VA	BLACKSBURG	NELLIE'S CAVE PARK	I	N	Y	Y	7.0	7.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
VA	BLACKSBURG	OWENS ST	H	Y	Y	N	4.7	4.7	N	Y	N	Y	N	Y	
VA	BLACKSBURG	PRIMROSE PARK	H	Y	Y	Y	7.0	5.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	
VA	BLACKSBURG	WESTOVER HILLS PARK	I	Y	Y	N		6.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	
VA	BURKE	BURKE#1	I	Y	N		10.0	10.0	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	A,B,D,F,G
VA	BURKE	BURKE#2	I	Y		N	6.0	5.0					Y	N	
VA	BURKE	BURKE#3	I	N	N	N	4.5	3.0	N	Y	N		N	Y	F
VA	CHRISTIANSBURG	ARMORY PLAYGROUND	I	N	Y	Y	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	E
VA	CHRISTIANSBURG	DEPOT ST PARK	H	Y	N	N	9.0	7.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	
VA	CHRISTIANSBURG	ELLETT ST PARK	I	N	N	N	5.0	6.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
VA	DISPUTANTA	HARRISON SCHOOL	I	Y	Y	N	20.0	5.0	N	N		Y	N	N	
VA	FARMVILLE	FUQUA ELEMENTARY	I	N	N	Y	8.0	8.0	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	B,E,F,H
VA	FARMVILLE	GROVE ST PARK	I	N	Y	Y	7.0	6.0	N	N	Y	N	Y	Y	
VA	FARMVILLE	KID CARE	I	N	N	Y	10.0	5.0	N	N	N	N	N	N	
VA	FARMVILLE	PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY E	I	Y	Y	Y	9.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	A,F
VA	FARMVILLE	WILKES LAKE	I	N	N	Y	12.0	3.0					Y	N	A,F,H
VA	HALIFAX	SINI ELEMENTARY	H	N	Y	N	9.0	8.0	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	
VA	HALIFAX	SYDNOR JENNIGS ELEMENT.	I	Y	Y	N	9.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	A,B
VA	HAMPTON	BARRON	I	N		N	9.0						N	N	C,F
VA	HAMPTON	CHATAM HGHTS PARK	M	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
VA	HAMPTON	LUTHERAN SCHOOL	Y	Y	Y	N	5.0	4.0	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	B,F,G,H
VA	LYNCHBURG	MILLER PARK	M	N	Y	Y	7.0		N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	C
VA	LYNCHBURG	RIVERSIDE PARK	H	N	Y	Y	7.7	10.0	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	E
VA	PEMBROKE	TREASURE ISLAND	Y	Y	Y	N	6.0	6.0	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	A,B,F,H
VA	PRINCE GEORGE	TEMPLE PARK	I	Y		N	10.0	6.0					N	Y	B
VA	RADFORD	8TH ST PARK	H	N	N	Y	12.0	12.0	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	C,F
VA	RADFORD	BETHEL SCHOL	I	Y	Y	N	15.0		N	N	Y	Y	N	N	F
VA	RADFORD	DAVID BISSETT PARK	M	N		N	5.0	3.0					N	Y	D

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